

Gorbachev deal crowns Kohl visit

Russia agrees to Germany inside Nato

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev has bowed to the inevitable and agreed that Moscow will accept a united Germany in Nato if that is what the German people wish.

The decision was announced by the Soviet leader yesterday in the presence of a beaming Helmut Kohl at the end of the West German chancellor's second triumphant visit to the Soviet Union this year.

Mr Gorbachev's decision, although still not clear-cut, and dependent on a united Germany agreeing to conditions, constitutes a vital concession and clears the way for progress at the "two-plus-four" talks in Paris today. It also makes feasible Herr Kohl's objective of German unity by the end of the year.

At a news conference with Herr Kohl, Mr Gorbachev said: "Whether we like it or not, the time will come when a united Germany will be in Nato if that is what it chooses. Then, if that is the choice, to some degree and in some form, it can work together with the Soviet Union."

Moscow has opposed Nato membership for a united Germany on the ground that it would upset the balance of power in Europe, although Mr Gorbachev personally has sometimes seemed more flexible. In his most recent words on the subject, his Victory Day address to army officers on May 8, he reverted to his softer formula, which ruled out any solution that "altered the balance of security in

WHAT GORBACHEV AND KOHL AGREED

■ Germany free to choose which military alliance it joins after unity

■ No Nato forces to be moved into present East German territory, or Nato structures extended to this territory, while Soviet troops remain. Soviet Union "hopes" no Nato forces or nuclear weapons will be stationed there after withdrawal

■ Four-power Allied agreement on Germany to cease upon unification

■ Soviet Union and united Germany to sign treaty for withdrawal of Soviet troops in 3 or 4 years

■ Army of united Germany to be cut from about 600,000 to 370,000 in same period

Europe". Yesterday, Mr Gorbachev looked ill at ease as he made his statement, suggesting that this key concession had been difficult.

The conditions set by President Gorbachev are: that relations between the Soviet Union and a united Germany will be governed by a formal treaty enshrining security guarantees for the Soviet Union; that Soviet troops should remain in what is now East Germany for "three to four years" and that the conditions of their stay and the pace of their withdrawal should be the subject of a separate treaty; and that a united Germany should agree not to station foreign troops, nuclear weapons or chemical weapons on what is now East German territory. He also suggested that a united Germany's relationship with Nato might be more in the way of an associate membership.

Herr Kohl said nothing to suggest that any of these conditions was unreasonable. He also indicated that agreement was near on the size of a united German army. The figure mentioned was 370,000, closer to Bonn's target of 390,000 than to Moscow's preferred total of 250,000.

The press conference yesterday was held in the north Caucasian spa town of Mineralnye Vody, not far from Mr Gorbachev's home region of Stavropol where the two leaders had spent the weekend. Television showed a casually dressed Herr Kohl and Mr Gorbachev strolling through fields, and the idea of the weekend in the country is believed to owe much to Mr Gorbachev's enjoyment of his day at Camp David during the Washington summit.

Mr Gorbachev attributed Moscow's change of mind in

part to the communique issued after the Nato summit in London. This stated that the alliance no longer considered the Soviet Union an adversary. Another factor may have been his victory at the party congress which enabled him to remove prominent opponents of German unification from the leadership.

The presence of the Nato Secretary-General, Manfred Wörner, in Moscow this week-end appears to have been successful in driving the message of the Nato summit home.

The eight main points of the joint statement were: 1 Reunification involved the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin. 2 If German reunification became a reality, the four powers' responsibility and their powers would be fully abrogated.

3 A reunited Germany, exercising its unlimited sovereignty, may freely and independently decide which alliances or blocs it wanted to belong to. Herr Kohl added that a reunited Germany would become a Nato member and was confident that this accorded with the opinion of the East German government.

4 A reunited Germany would conclude a bilateral treaty with the Soviet Union for the withdrawal of troops from East Germany. The troop withdrawal is to be completed within three to four years.

5 Nato structures would not apply to this part of Germany as long as Soviet troops remained on the former territory of East Germany. Herr Kohl pointed out that the Bundeswehr and West German territorial defence units that are not part of Nato could be stationed there.

6 The troops of the three Western powers may remain in Berlin as long as Soviet troops remained stationed on the former territory of East Germany.

7 The federal government expressed readiness during the Vienna talks to undertake to reduce the armed forces of a reunited Germany within three or four years to 370,000 men. The cuts should be started after a Vienna treaty on reduction of conventional arms in Europe took effect.

8 A reunited Germany would renounce the manufacture and possession of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons and would become a party to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Claiming credit, page 11
Leading article, page 15

Ukraine parliament declares sovereignty

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IN THE wake of the Russian Federation and the Baltic republics, Ukraine yesterday voted for sovereignty. There was no immediate response from Moscow. Ukraine is the second largest republic in the Soviet Union and has rich industrial and farming resources.

Parliament in Kiev said in a declaration that the republic intended to become a neutral state with its own army and currency.

The declaration, which was

approved by 355 votes to four, did not speak of secession from the Soviet Union but claimed the right to seek compensation from Moscow for damage done to the ecology of the republic, which was the site of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

The impact of the Kiev vote will become clear only when parliament publishes draft legislation conflicting with that of the Soviet Union.

Details, page 11

Battering ram gang robs the royal jeweller

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A TEAM of robbers yesterday crashed a three-ton lorry into the front window of Asprey, the Bond Street jewellers, and helped themselves to a diamond necklace worth £742,500 in the second assault in a month on the royal family's favoured gift shop.

Four weeks ago Asprey staff could console themselves with the fact that they attracted a better class of robber after a well-dressed gang posing as customers slipped out of the jewellery department with items worth £1.8 million. Yesterday it was not clear whether the rough end of the criminal world had taken its turn or whether the original gang had returned, using somewhat cruder methods to lay their hands on the necklace which they may have missed the first time around. After the

last robbery Asprey put the diamond necklace back on display as if to show the thieves what they had missed. The shop had been open for an hour when the gang struck. A flat-bed builder's lorry loaded with an iron girder was reversed into the glass window by a burly man sporting a dark beard, dark glasses and blue baseball cap. The girder was used as a battering ram to smash the glass.

A security guard rushed out to see what had happened and was sprayed in the face with ammonia. The gang, thought to number at least three, grabbed the necklace from the window and escaped in a Ford Escort which was later found abandoned. The guard was treated at Westminster Hospital.

One witness said: "The lorry had been rammed into the shop. There is glass all over the pavement - it's a mess." He added: "It looked like a real professional

job. The truck had a girder welded to the back of it and they used it like a battering ram."

News of last month's robbery, when four gang members posing separately as customers distracted staff while a fifth opened a display case with his own key and pocketed three or four pieces of jewellery, including a necklace, was suppressed for three weeks at the company's insistence. The company has never confirmed it was robbed and yesterday there was some hesitation before anyone admitted that the large lorry in the front window was anything more than an accident.

A spokesman for the store at first said: "We have no details on the incident at the moment as it is a security matter, so things are very slow to come through. Something has happened and that is all I

Continued on page 22, col 1

Iraq frees UK nurse after plea by Kaunda

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

IRAQ yesterday unexpectedly freed Daphne Parish, the British nurse jailed for 15 years in March for assisting Farzad Bazofi, the Observer journalist whom the Iraqis executed for spying.

Mrs Parish was released by President Saddam Hussein of Iraq in response to a personal appeal from President Kaunda of Zambia, and she left immediately on a private plane for Lusaka.

Mrs Thatcher sent an immediate message of thanks to the Zambian leader for his intervention.

A key link in the proceedings appeared to be Lourho, which has extensive business interests in Zambia and owns the Observer. Mr Tiny Rowlands, Lourho's chief executive, has maintained good personal relations with President Kaunda and the Zambian leader has a close rapport with President Saddam. There was speculation yesterday that the plane taking Mrs Parish to Lusaka was owned by Lourho.

Iraq's relations with Western countries have been at a low ebb since the execution of Bazofi. Baghdad has been accused twice in the past two months by British and American customs officials of attempting to acquire Western technology for military use and President Saddam has alarmed Western governments by belligerent threats to use chemical weapons.

Whitehall sources emphasised that President Kaunda had acted on his own initiative without any direct prompting, although Britain had made a worldwide appeal for support in its campaign for Mrs Parish and Bazofi. President Kaunda had appealed in



Mrs Parish after her release in Baghdad

Before boarding the plane for Lusaka, Mrs Parish expressed her gratitude to President Kaunda and President Saddam.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, was delighted at the release and said he hoped the gesture would now be followed by the release of Ian Richter, a British businessman serving a life sentence in Iraq after being convicted of bribery three years ago.

Whitehall sources said the fate of Mr Richter would remain an important factor in determining whether relations between Britain and Iraq could improve. William Waldegrave, the foreign office minister, said he hoped the release might be a turning point in relations.

Although Mrs Parish was officially released on humanitarian grounds, a foreign office spokesman said there was no indication that she was ill. Mr

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Family reaction, page 3
Iraq's new course, page 13

Midland to be sued by DTI for £150m

By STEPHEN LEATHER

PETER Lilley, the newly appointed trade secretary, is to take legal action against Midland Bank and five firms of financial advisers to try to recover almost £150 million compensation paid to victims of the Barlow Clowes collapse.

The government has so far paid out £148.8 million to thousands of small investors who lost money when Barlow Clowes was forced to cease trading by the Securities and Investments Board in 1988. The compensation scheme was announced last January, when investors had to assign rights of recovery to the government.

The Midland has become involved because it operated accounts on behalf of Barlow Clowes which the Department of Trade and Industry says should have been held in trust for the individual investors. Last night the bank said it intended to defend the claim very vigorously. The writ, prepared by City solicitors Clyde & Co, is 166 pages long and contains the names of most of the 18,500 investors who lost money.

All the writs seek unspecified damages for negligence and breach of contract, and damages or compensation in equity for breach of trust and breach of fiduciary duty. The writs are test cases and it is likely that more will follow.

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Ministers try to reassure Bonn

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

MINISTERS yesterday intensified efforts to repair British relations with Germany after the resignation of Nicholas Ridley over his remarks about German ambitions of dominating Europe.

In Brussels, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, emphasised friendship with France and Germany, and said that his swift reassurance that policy had not changed had defused any tensions. At Westminster, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy prime minister, paid tribute to Germa-

ny's achievements and "civilised values", and said the premise of British policy was that "Europe is the most important game in town".

Douglas Street launched an enquiry into the leaking of a secret memorandum on the Chequers meeting at which the prime minister took academic advice on the German national character.

As Labour sought to exploit the government's embarrassment in the Commons, Jack Cunningham, the shadow leader of the House, accused

the prime minister of having neither "the guts nor the candour" to make a Commons statement about the resignation of Mr Ridley, "in the most disgraceful circumstances of outdated xenophobia". But the Speaker refused requests for an emergency debate.

With Tory nerve endings exposed, Mrs Thatcher will make two key speeches this week, addressing Tory peers today and backbench MPs on Thursday. As criticism continued in Conservative ranks

yesterday over the delay between the publication of Mr Ridley's remarks and his resignation, ministers admitted that the prospect of a leadership challenge to Mrs Thatcher this autumn could re-emerge if party disarray over the Ridley affair led to a significant increase in Labour's opinion poll lead.

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Diary, page 14
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Powerful quake hits Philippines

From A CORRESPONDENT IN MANILA

A SEVERE earthquake shook Manila and the northern Philippines yesterday, killing at least 60 people, among them 33 children who were crushed in their classrooms.

The earthquake, which measured 7.7 on the open-ended Richter scale and lasted 45 seconds, caused heavy damage in Nueva Ecija province, the epicentre. In Cabanatuan, 55 miles north of Manila, official reports said 40 people died when buildings collapsed. At least 33 children were killed when the six-storey Philippine Christian College fell. Children and staff trapped beneath the rubble cried for help as rescuers worked through the night to pull survivors from the debris.

In Manila an elderly man died of head wounds and at least 16 people were hurt in a

stampede at a suburban shopping mall. The earthquake put several radio stations temporarily off the air, and disrupted telecommunications and traffic lights.

The Red Cross said four people died in the province of Pangasinan. In Baguio City, a mountain resort in Benguet province north of Pangasinan, 15 people were killed, including five students who were trapped when portions of a university building collapsed. Hotels were damaged, and radio reports said many foreigners were injured in the earthquake. It was not clear whether the 15 dead included tourists. "The hospitals are full and I see many foreigners who were injured," said one reporter.

Photograph, page 13

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High Street squeezed

Retail sales fell by 2.8 per cent last month, the biggest monthly fall for 11 years, raising hopes in the City that Chancellor John Major's policy of high interest rates is beginning to contain inflation. In London more than £4 billion was added to value of share prices with the FT-SE 100 index closing above the 2400 level for the first time in a month. In New York the Dow Jones industrial average topped the 3,000 level at midday. Page 23

Court campaign

A campaign to curb the power of the European Court of Justice grew yesterday as a Conservative MP called on government law officers for a full statement on United Kingdom sovereignty. Page 5

Cathedral funds

Hard-sell techniques have replaced jumble sales as England's cathedrals seek funds. These methods, however, are causing concern. Page 4
Leading article, page 15

Indian struggle

V. P. Singh, India's prime minister, was locked in a power struggle yesterday amid growing expectations of an election that could restore the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty to power. Page 11

Terror flat

Police in The Hague investigating the IRA's murder of two Australian tourists have discovered a flat which they believe was used by the group which carried out the attack. Page 22

Taylor's dream

Graham Taylor said yesterday that he plans to become the "most track-suited" manager England has had and wants to be invited by football clubs to run training sessions. Page 40

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Aftermath of the Nicholas Ridley affair and the prime minister's Chequers seminar on Germany

Molehunt begins on leaked paper as Howe assures Bonn

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

AS MINISTERS sought yesterday to assure Germany of Britain's friendship in the wake of Nicholas Ridley's resignation, Downing Street launched an enquiry into the leaking of a secret report on the prime minister's Chequers seminar on the German character.

Conservative nerves remained exposed in the wake of Mr Ridley's resignation. Some ministers insisted that the affair would soon be forgotten while others admitted privately that the question of a leadership challenge to Margaret Thatcher this autumn would depend on whether the ructions over Europe in the past few days extend the gap between Labour and the Conservatives in the opinion polls once more.

"If it is only 10 per cent in the autumn then all will be well," one said. "If it starts taking off once again then there could be trouble." With the poll tax effect diminishing, ministers believe that the crucial factor in determining that poll standing will be the economy. There is anxiety in all quarters of the party, however, that the reshuffle of junior ministers due next week, until now an affair of minor significance, should be sensitively handled, giving offence to no wing of the party.

The government's business managers fear that the party could become a dog wagged by two tails, with two small groups of Europhobes and Europhiles continuing a noisy debate that ensures that the

party is seen as split on the crucial issue of Europe when the majority of its MPs are prepared to settle for any compromise that helps them to win the next election.

Few MPs seemed in a state of obvious agitation yesterday. As one keen European said: "Blood has been shed and that always has a calming influence on the party."

In other developments yesterday it emerged that Mr Ridley had been prepared to fight to retain his position until he was convinced during his telephone conversation with the prime minister that he must go. A friend said: "It was only then he realised that he was being offered the pearl-handled revolver for his own use and not to shoot the editor of *The Spectator*."

It also emerged that it was the Treasury as much as the Foreign Office that was furious over Mr Ridley's gaffe and insisted that he had to go. Treasury ministers had been hoping to win over the Germans as allies in their battle against full economic and monetary union. They felt that Britain had already missed a trick in not being more welcoming to German unification when the Berlin Wall came down and the French were hesitant. Now Mr Ridley's words have seriously compromised their hopes of gaining German co-operation.

British efforts to counter the damage to Anglo-German relations were evident in a speech last night from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy

prime minister. He said in a supper club talk at the Commons: "No country has made a more strenuous effort to uphold civilised values and act co-operatively with others than West Germany since the war. They have been reliable partners in both Nato and the community. We should, and do, acknowledge that achievement and respect it." Sir Geoffrey added: "Our partnership can be the foundation stone for a new and more optimistic Europe, which the end of communism in the East now permits."

He argued that a weaker EC or a reduced British commitment would not lead to a less powerful Germany but would have the reverse effect.

In Brussels, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, dismissed the Ridley affair as a "five-day wonder" and denied that it would damage Britain's relations with Europe.

The Whitehall search for the mole who leaked a memorandum summarising the Chequers seminar on the ramifications of German unification began yesterday.

Government sources disclosed that a team of civil servants from the Cabinet Office would carry out the investigation. The police could be brought in at a later date if the Cabinet Office report finds evidence supporting a prosecution. The sources said that the paper was classified highly restricted.

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Diary, page 14



Ridley at bay: the former trade and industry secretary in gardening gear gloves at a photographer from a corner of his house at Naunton, Gloucestershire, yesterday

Lilley to publish predecessor's Fayed response

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

WITHIN days of taking office Peter Lilley, the new trade and industry secretary, is to publish a white paper strongly defending the handling of the House of Fraser affair by his two predecessors, Nicholas Ridley and Lord Young of Grafton, and the department's record on prosecuting insider dealers.

Mr Lilley inherited the white paper, already printed, from Mr Ridley. It is the government's formal response to the Commons trade and industry committee report on company investigations.

Department sources said yesterday that publication will be before the Commons summer recess on July 26. Although the document clearly carries Mr Ridley's "fingerprints" John Redwood, corporate affairs minister, is also understood to have had a hand in its drafting.

Its less than full account of the actions of Mr Ridley and Lord Young in handling the department's report on the Fayed brothers' takeover of House of Fraser will be blamed on continuing legal actions. Mr Justice Kennedy has granted Lord Young leave to seek a judicial review of Mr Ridley's refusal to act against the Fayed.

The cross-party committee accused Mr Ridley of complicity towards the Fayed and said that he should have allowed the courts to decide whether to disqualify the Fayed as directors after they misrepresented their status to the department's inspectors. The white paper's defence of the government will inevitably hand the Opposition

fresh ammunition on the controversial takeover.

At the core of the white paper will be the reputation of MPs' allegations of disloyalty by the department in pursuing suspected insider dealers. The Tory-dominated committee said: "Rarely can a government department's discharge of its responsibilities have been held in such low esteem."

The report, published on May 23, said it could take up to six months for the department to appoint inspectors to investigate insider dealing cases. It suggested a complete overhaul of the regulatory law, modelled on the United States security and exchange commission, with civil penalties against insider dealers.

It emerged yesterday that Mr Ridley's original response to the report was to have been a "real tongue-lashing" for the committee. He was persuaded to tone down the wording slightly.

Mr Lilley is likely to face a further critical report from the committee over the government's "sweeteners" to British Aerospace in the £150 million Rover sale. The committee will meet tomorrow in a final attempt to agree a majority report for publication before the end of the month.

Mr Lilley is also to face questioning by the committee over the government's takeover and mergers policy. The committee will examine the role of the Office of Fair Trading, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, European Commission and the Takeover Panel.

Leading article, page 15



St. Andrews, venue for the 1990 Open Championship.

If it wasn't for the rabbits hundreds of years ago, there wouldn't be any eagles today.

Of all the seaside courses where the Open is traditionally held, The Old Course at St Andrews is arguably the most famous. What few people realise, however, is that it owes its existence not only to the fierce waves of the sea and the howling winds, but also to ancient colonies of rabbits.

Just like an army of tiny lawnmowers, they nibbled away at the coastal scrubland, gradually transforming it into acre upon acre of finely cropped fairways. Their only companions being a few isolated sheep which took shelter behind the many wind-scarred sand dunes.

These days, though, it is no longer rabbits but birdies, albatrosses and eagles that hold sway at St Andrews. And the scurrying feet of sheep have been replaced by those of ardent golfing enthusiasts, eagerly following their heroes from one

hole to the next during the four days of the Open.

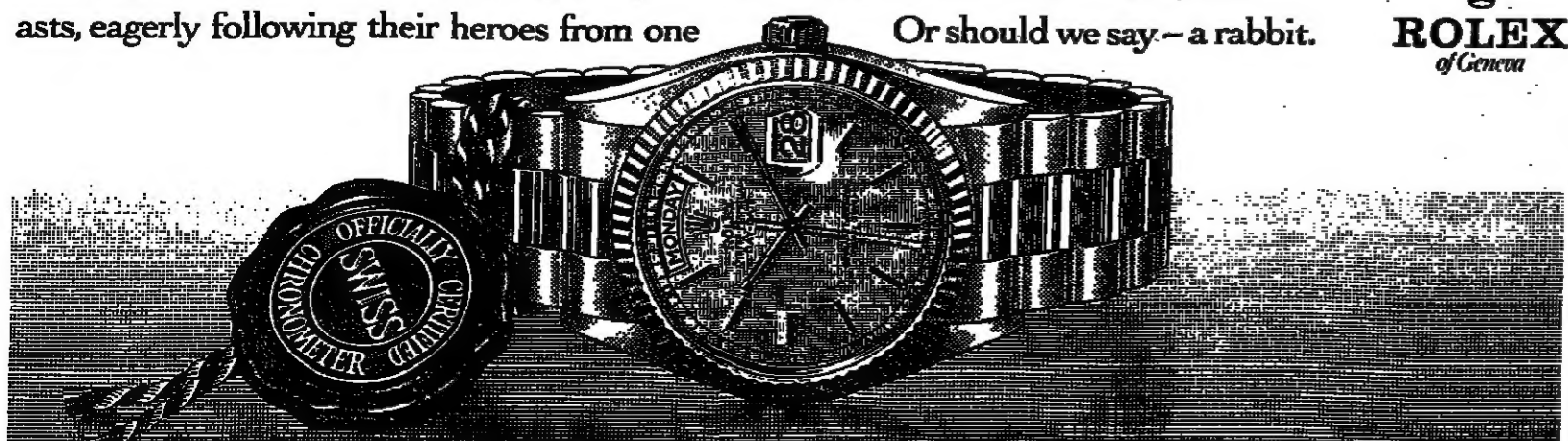
Soon after it was first established in 1860, it was a St Andrews name that dominated the Open, that of Tom Morris and his son, "Young Tom" Morris. And since then, many famous names have appeared on the silver Challenge Cup.

For every golfer at the Open, one of the keys to winning is precise timing. A golfer can even be disqualified for arriving late at the first tee. Which is why many rely on Rolex, the official timekeeper for the Open. And no matter how high the wind blows the sea-spray and the sand, the seamless Rolex Oyster will keep out the worst St Andrews has to offer.

It's just one more way of spotting a true professional from a mere novice.

Or should we say - a rabbit.

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Brooke initiative falters in flurry of talks

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A FLURRY of meetings in London, Dublin and Belfast aimed at keeping alive hopes for political progress in Northern Ireland appeared to have ended inconclusively last night amid speculation that the "Brooke initiative" is in trouble.

The most important meeting was between Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, and the two Unionist leaders, James Molyneux and Ian Paisley, at Mr Brooke's office in the Commons. The men talked in what the Northern Ireland Office described as a cordial atmosphere. A spokesman said that inter-party talks in the province remained a possibility, not a probability.

Mr Molyneux and Mr Paisley said: "We met the secretary of state at his request and conveyed to him the attitudes of our two parties and views put to us by a wide range of Northern Ireland citizens over the past ten days."

The discussions centred on proposals put to Mr Brooke last Friday by Gerard Collins, the Irish foreign minister, aimed at breaking the deadlock over Dublin's role in a three-tiered structure of talks, which Mr Brooke hopes will begin in the autumn.

Initially Mr Molyneux and Mr Paisley are believed to have agreed to the formula that only after "substantial progress" had been made on internal talks between the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland would contacts begin between them and the Irish government.

Dublin has been insisting on a more precise timetable. Mr Collins's proposals are

believed to be a compromise.

The other meetings held yesterday involved John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, who saw Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, in Dublin to discuss the initiative, and was due to meet Mr Brooke in Belfast last night.

The product of the meetings will be the subject of an Anglo-Irish Conference today in Belfast.

Speculation about the future of the initiative was continuing for want of any firm evidence that a breakthrough had been made as Mr Brooke's self-imposed deadline for a formal statement on his progress, by the end of this parliamentary session, draws closer.

Unionist politicians did little to hide their anger at comments last week by Mr Collins, who reportedly described unionists as having "opted out" of the Anglo-Irish Agreement. Unionists have always argued they were never offered a part in a treaty which, they say, was negotiated behind their backs by the two governments.

Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said Mr Collins's comments were a smokescreen designed to hide the Irish government's "nit-picking" of Mr Brooke's attempts to promote dialogue. He said: "The Irish Republic need not think that if the process breaks down, the people of Northern Ireland and indeed the international community, will look for anyone else other than his government to blame."

Press chief ordered to return from Antigua

By RICHARD EVANS, MEDIA EDITOR

THE chairman of the Press Council has been ordered by colleagues to return from the West Indies and chair a key meeting of the self-regulatory body at the end of this month. Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, had intended to remain in Antigua, where he is chairing a government enquiry into alleged corruption, but a recent council committee meeting said he should return to London. Several Press Council members are critical of Mr Blom-Cooper's conduct since the publication last month of the Calcutt report into the press and privacy.

Some members have been urged by national and provincial newspaper representatives to call for his resignation. Such drastic action is unlikely, mainly because the council wishes to depart with dignity when it is replaced by the Press Complaints Commission proposed by the Calcutt

report. Mr Blom-Cooper's main fault, in the eyes of his colleagues, is that he privately informed the council's main constituent bodies and publishers' Association (NPA) and the Newspaper Society (NS), that he favoured the council's abolition, while allowing the council to issue a defiant statement challenging its proposed demise. He has also been criticised for reports suggesting the council was planning to soften its stance on the Calcutt proposals.

With the council's initial opposition having been undermined by NPA and NS support for the new commission, the council has to reconsider its position at its monthly meeting on July 31. Mr Blom-Cooper was told in no uncertain terms that he would be expected to chair the meeting in spite of his West Indies commitments.

Bank offers mothers £75 bonus

Abbey National yesterday offered mothers a monthly bonus of £75 to return to work after having babies. It is also offering to extend maternity leave from the statutory 29 weeks to 40 weeks.

Each year about 400 staff give birth, but only half return to their jobs. The former building society will pay the "returners' bonus" for two years - £1,800 in total - after maternity leave, to help with the cost of childcare.

Mr Ted Murphy, employee relations manager, said: "We don't want to lose valuable trained staff and we hope the incentives will encourage more mothers to come back."

Lisburn killers

The Ulster Freedom Fighters yesterday claimed responsibility for killing Martin Hughes, aged 33, outside his home in Lisburn, Co Antrim, on Sunday night. They said he was shot because he was a member of the IRA. His family denied he had links with any organisation.

L-test on theory

Voluntary written tests with 100 questions for learner drivers are to be introduced in September. They will be closely monitored by the transport department, which is likely to make them compulsory in 1992 to bring Britain in line with the rest of the European Community.

Trial delayed

Two men were ordered by an Old Bailey judge to stop distributing leaflets outside the court yesterday after a demonstration by about 50 Asians delayed the start of a murder trial. Mr Justice Judge told the two men that the document put pressure on potential jurors.

Food poisoning

Keble College, Oxford, was fined £1,000 with £7,278 costs yesterday after salmonella food poisoning from mayonnaise caused sickness in 50 Japanese tourists and 18 American students at Ely psychiatric hospital in Cardiff. 32 patients were treated for salmonella yesterday.

Mother reunited

Lindsay Rhein, aged four, who was taken from her mother, Mrs Jill Rhein, in London last month, has been reunited with her mother in Tel Aviv after the arrest of her father in Jerusalem on suspicion of abducting the child. The girl's parents have been engaged in a legal custody battle.

Switzerland: The Swiss government is offering a reward of 250,000 Swiss francs (approx. £125,000) for information leading to the arrest of a man who is believed to have stolen a car from a Swiss bank in 1988. The car was stolen from a Swiss bank in 1988. The car was stolen from a Swiss bank in 1988. The car was stolen from a Swiss bank in 1988.

Lack of funds 'puts at risk non-custodial sentencing'

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A NUMBER of judges have expressed concern at the implications of the government's new sentencing policy under which they will be encouraged to make much greater use of non-custodial alternatives to prison.

They are worried that unless the new approach, which will underpin a criminal justice bill this autumn, is backed with a big infusion of funds,

Data bank of medical claims

HEALTH authorities may be able to reduce the cost of a threatened increase in large medical negligence claims by using the country's first national data bank of medical malpractice cases (Frances Gibb writes).

The data bank has been set up by Capsticks, a south London law firm, which has built up a specialist practice acting for health authorities facing negligence claims. The firm intends to open up its database of more than 8,000 cases, going back to the 60s, to health authorities. Under recent changes they now have to meet the whole cost of claims without the contribution previously made by medical defence organisations.

Hospitals and health authorities, who can retain their own solicitors, will be able to use the bank for an entrance fee plus an annual fee.

Mr Brian Capstick, senior partner, said that the new change in the way claims are met, known as crown indemnity, would have "far-reaching consequences for both patients and the hospitals. The most obvious consequence will be to make health authorities very much more aware of the cost of claims," he said. Eventually the cost had to come from money that would otherwise go on patients.

Health authorities would be looking at ways in which to reduce the cost of claims and to embrace the concept of "claims management", an idea pioneered by Capsticks for several years.

He said there had been calls for a database of medical malpractice claims to be maintained nationally. The information was valuable for quality assurance purposes (monitoring and reducing the number of untoward incidents).

Legal Brief, page 30

The freeing of Daphne Parish

Release comes out of the blue for delighted daughter

By MARK SOUSTER

IRAQ'S unexpected release of Daphne Parish was greeted with relief, amazement and delight by her family and friends and was a welcome surprise for the government.

Michelle de Vries, Mrs Parish's daughter, who has led a campaign so that her mother's plight would not be forgotten, said she burst into tears and then danced a jig when telephoned by the Foreign Office at 10.15am yesterday.

The news that her mother was on a flight to Lusaka on President Kaunda's personal aircraft came out of the blue to Miss de Vries at the home she shares with her fiancé in Battersea, south London. She

had returned from Baghdad only on Saturday after visiting her mother in prison, and there had been no inkling of her imminent release.

"It was just a total surprise. I had no idea she would be released so soon," she said. "I had a message from the Foreign Office on my answering machine this morning and I was terrified it was going to be bad news. I thought Mum was dead or something. But I rang them up and they were all really excited and said she was being released."

"I only came back from seeing her yesterday and I thought there was no way she would be home for at least a

couple of years. She had pretty well resigned herself to being there for a long time."

Miss de Vries said the past few months had been a strain. "I think there were times when we both felt absolutely terrible and I just broke down in tears. We can't bring Farzad [Bazofi] back, but Mum's coming home and there is some compensation in that."

Joyce Chivers, Mrs Parish's sister, said: "It was a complete surprise, but what a marvelous surprise. I am so excited, so happy, I can't describe it. It is just marvelous news."

William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, paid tribute to Miss de Vries for displaying the "right mixture of courage and appeal pitched in just the right words".

Christine Hancock, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing said: "I am delighted that Daphne Parish has been released. This is a humanitarian act which we must all applaud." At the RCN's annual congress this year 2,600 delegates signed a petition to the Iraqi ambassador in London asking for Mrs Parish's early release.

Adrian Hamilton, deputy editor of the *Observer*, for which Bazofi was working when he was arrested, said: "We are utterly and completely delighted. Although we have been putting on as much pressure as we can for her release, we had not expected anything at this particular time. It has come as a great surprise to us."

The prime minister was said to have greeted the news with very considerable delight and government sources said the announcement was a very great surprise. Neil Kinnock said: "The release of Daphne Parish, an innocent woman, is marvelous news in the wake of the tragic killing of Farzad Bazofi."

Iraq's new course, page 13



Gerry Moffatt, a member of the British Tanning of the Lion expedition, which became the first to navigate the turbulent white waters of the river Indus in Pakistan, tackling the final stages of the journey. Even after their month-long journey down the most dangerous part of the river, the canoeing team faced extreme difficulties (Lin Jenkins writes). Having overcome some of the world's most spectacular rapids from below K2 to a point below Nanga

Parbat, the only way off the river was a point just a few yards from where the water squeezed through a 20ft gap to plunge down a 50ft waterfall. "Imagine a river the volume of the Thames crashing through that space. We had to get right to the lip of the waterfall to get out. One wrong move and it would have been goodbye," said Paul Newing, aged 21, who now returns to his less taxing job as a buyer for a retail sports equipment chain. "The river has a

reputation for being about the most difficult, yet it was considerably bigger than we had anticipated. It was running so fast and is so much wider than similar rivers that it made the descent very grueling," Mr Newing said. Several of the 12-strong team had narrow escapes. A documentary of the descent called *The Taming of the Lion*, after the Buddhist belief that the water flows from the mouth of the lion, will be shown on Channel 4.

Provincial funding for reputed arts groups likely to provoke dispute

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

RICHARD Luce, the minister for the arts, is today expected to tell the national conference of the Council of Regional Arts Association (CoRAA) in Liverpool that provincial companies, however internationally renowned, should receive funding from new regional arts boards. The recommendation is likely to provoke a heated debate over "second-class" subsidies.

It was thought that arts organisations such as the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester, the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, and the new £13 million West Yorkshire Playhouse, which all receive large grants from the council, would continue to be funded by it. However, Mr Luce is expected to make it clear today that this will not happen, but several organisations are concerned that the new boards will not have the experience or influence to cope with their needs.

The "flagship" companies — the Royal Opera House, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the English National Opera, the South Bank Board and the Royal National Theatre — and touring companies with an established itinerant programme should, however, be eligible for Arts Council funding.

The guidelines are broadly those recommended by the minister's devolution steering committee, which includes Anthony Everitt, the new Arts Council general secretary, and Christopher Gordon, director of CoRAA. Mr Luce and Peter Palumbo, the chairman of the Arts Council, are known

to want to avoid accusations of creating a new fleet of flagships for the Arts Council by keeping prestigious regional clients for themselves. However, it is feared that provincial companies which will no longer receive Arts Council funding will feel the stigma of being considered second-rate.

The new boards are in the process of being established, and, ironically, the regional council's host for its conference is Merseyside Arts, which will be merged with the North West Arts association. Under the new guidelines the big London orchestras such as the London Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Philharmonia and the Royal Philharmonic, would all have their funding provided by the Greater London Arts board. Although they all have international reputations, none has sufficient touring responsibilities to meet the guidelines for itinerant companies.

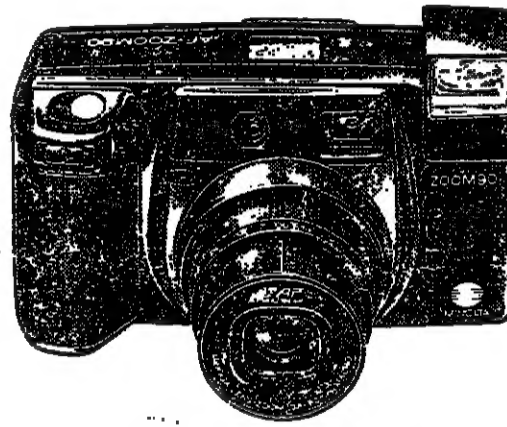
While Mr Luce's guidelines are expected to leave room for manoeuvre, they will not deviate far, if at all, from the statements of intent made by the minister in his letter to Mr Palumbo in March. He wrote: "A regional theatre, gallery or orchestra is primarily a regional resource, even though it may have a national or international reputation. That is why I believe it is the new regional arts boards that are best placed to take on the responsibility for the day-to-day funding of most of the regionally-based organisations."

The companies which are to have their Arts Council funding removed are expected to be named in the autumn.

£2,000 fine for Russian sea captain

A RUSSIAN sea captain caused up to £10,000 damage as he steered his freighter out of a West Country harbour, magistrates at Newton Abbot, Devon, were told yesterday. Lev Zaytsev, aged 41, ignored the instructions of the local pilot as he sailed from Teignmouth, David Gittins, for the prosecution, said.

Zaytsev, from Vologda, was fined £2,000 and ordered to pay £120 costs. The court proceeded with the case even though Zaytsev did not answer his bail. The magistrates decided that Cyril Boyne, of Pike Ward, the local shipping agents, should forfeit the £10,000 surety he put up when Zaytsev was bailed. Mr Boyne hoped to recover the money from the ship's owners.



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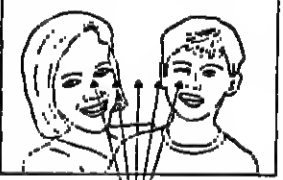
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Councils face legal action over poll tax cut demands

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

CHARGE capped councils have been told that they will face legal action if they refuse to reduce poll tax demands to the levels set by ministers.

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, is preparing to take a tough line with capped councils after a number said they would not reduce their community charge bills in line with government figures. A letter from the environment department to Calderdale council, in West Yorkshire, makes it clear that the government will use the courts if Calderdale insists on reducing its poll tax by £45 rather than the £52 set by ministers.

The dispute has arisen because capping orders specify reductions in council budgets rather than poll tax bills. As a result, councils argue that it is for them to assess the impact of budget cuts on the community charge.

Mr Patten has, however, published figures showing the poll tax reductions he expects to see from the 21 councils which have been sent capping orders. Many of the councils have said that they will be unable to reduce bills to the level suggested because of the cost of sending new bills to nearly four million charge payers.

The Labour-controlled Local Government Information Unit predicts that it will cost the 21 councils £7 million to send out new bills and £10 million to £20 million in interest on loans to cover shortfalls in payments.

The unit says that a cut of £5

million in a £100 million council budget could produce a reduction of only £32 a head in poll tax bills, compared to a government prediction of £100. Capped councils, which have taken their fight against capping to the law lords, have argued that they are immune from fresh legal action because ministers have no power to enforce their estimates of poll tax cuts.

However, government lawyers have advised ministers that section 35 of the Act, which says that capped councils must "reflect in their substitute charges the full amount of reductions" in their budgets, gives the department power to enforce the cuts.

Ministers have been told that any one of the four million charge payers affected by capping could bring an action for judicial review if they fail to receive the refunds ranging from £99 to £26 promised by the government.

The threat of a new round of court cases over the poll tax emerged as the law lords concluded consideration of the final stage of the councils' challenge to capping. Judgment is expected later today.

● Poll tax payers in Nottinghamshire are facing a £7,700 bill to send five councillors to Jamaica for a week to study the country's education system. The county council yesterday approved the funding. It wants to find out why black children are under-achieving in the county's schools and believes the visit will help to find the answers.



Modern Aeolian harps up to 4ft high seem to tower over the cranes outside the Arncliffe arts centre at Bristol docks. The wind-induced humming of the harps, the creation of Roger Winfield, a sculptor and musician, is amplified electronically and mixed through a sound console

Cathedrals cash in on hard-sell techniques

MARKETING consultants, sophisticated video equipment and hard-sell techniques are being used by cathedrals in place of the traditional jumble sale and afternoon tea methods of fund raising.

Faced with increasing bills for restoration in the last decade, many of England's 42 cathedrals have launched public appeals for urgent repair work as the debate rages over where the money should come from. Last week a £7 million appeal, the most ambitious and largest to date, was launched at Winchester cathedral.

Salisbury, Hereford, Ely, Worcester, Gloucester, the list goes on as the battle to speed up repairs gathers pace.

The motion before the House of Commons last night to approve the care of cathedrals may well reopen debate on how restoration should be funded. Since Hereford tried to sell its 13th

century Mappa Mundi there has been growing pressure for a central body to raise and distribute funds. Ray Clancy examines the ways cathedrals have raised funds for repairs.

Patronage by the royal family is a big boost but it is the increasing sophistication of the appeals that has ensured that money floods in, especially from business.

Videos are commissioned and fund-raising consultants hired to ensure a high profile. Appeal organisers are looking more and more to the United States for donations from large corporations eager to be associated with saving part of England's heritage.

Unlike listed churches and

secular buildings, cathedrals do not qualify for state funding but rely on charity for their upkeep. The diligent, but often destructive work of Victorian restorers needs to be replaced. The iron clamps have rusted and expanded causing a great deal of damage. Weather, pollution and acid rain have affected stonework and rot has invaded load-bearing oak beams.

Should historic artefacts be sold to raise money? Hereford's dean and chapter

found themselves facing a storm in November 1988 when they tried to sell the 13th-century Mappa Mundi to raise money for repairs.

At Winchester, the appeal has a slightly different approach from a straightforward request for money. Its aim is to secure the whole future of the cathedral, which celebrates its 900th birthday in three years, and to provide funds for a visitor centre and restaurant which will bring in more money and fund the world famous choir.

The Winchester Cathedral Trust announced that it aimed to raise £7 million in one year. Of that, £5 million will go on repairs including stone restoration, replacement of rotting beams and new lead roofing. Another £1 million is needed for the new centre and £1 million for the choir. An appeal video opens with a plea from the Duchess of York, patron of the trust.

Worcester cathedral's £4 million appeal was launched in October 1988 and is now only £520,000 from its target. But £10 million will be needed for restoration over the next 15 years. The dean hopes that the remaining £6 million can be raised through increased income from visitors.

The work includes shoring up the tower, which is moving because the supports are not solid, but were filled with rubble which has settled over 600 years. Stabilising work, which will cost at least £1.5 million, begins in September.

The appeal has probably been so successful because of the hard-sell techniques the cathedral adopted with the help of an international fund-raising consultant. A pyramid-selling method was used: fund-raisers appealed to 10 of the richest people in the area to contribute, and asked each of them to name 10 more people to approach.

In contrast, Hereford relied on the jumble sale and fête approach. The cathedral's announcement that it wanted to sell the Mappa Mundi to raise £7 million for repairs and to build a centre to house its other historic treasures, provoked outrage.

The Mappa Mundi was saved by a £3 million rescue

package funded by the National Heritage Memorial Fund and John Paul Getty Jr. The money was used to set up a fund to create a museum in Hereford for the map and other treasures, but the cathedral still faces financial problems, including urgent repairs estimated at more than £1 million.

The sale of waxed jackets and fashionable jumpers in the visitors' centre is helping to keep Ely cathedral's finances topped up. The vaulted undercroft of the almonshouse has been turned into a restaurant and bar.

Ely learnt early how to flex its commercial muscle. At the end of 1985, facing financial problems, the chapter decided to introduce a compulsory entrance fee, except on Sundays, appoint a full-time marketing manager, and a year later it was operating on a surplus. A £4 million appeal for general repairs was launched in September 1986 and 12 months later the money was safely in.

Salisbury cathedral appealed for £6.5 million to save its 404th limestone tower and spire, the tallest in Britain, in September 1987. The Prince of Wales launched the beginning of the restoration. So far, £4.25 million has been raised and the work is expected to be finished in 1992.

There had been fears that the initial rush of donations might tail off quickly, but in Salisbury more than £1 million was raised in 1989, the best fund-raising year.

In Gloucester, the patronage of the Prince of Wales also helped. The cathedral launched its £4 million appeal in 1988, and in 15 months it has raised £2.5 million.

● A decision on whether York Minster is to be protected permanently from traffic vibrations and fumes is about to be made after 25 years of debate (Peter Davenport writes).

Since February 1989, Deangate, the road running within feet of the south side of the building, has been closed to traffic as an experiment. York city council and North Yorkshire county council, the highways authority, have sent 75,000 questionnaires to local people. It seems a majority is in favour of a permanent ban enabling them to replace the road with grass.

Leading article, page 15

Selection system 'produces colourless bishops'

By DANIEL TREISMAN

THE way in which Church of England leaders are appointed has resulted in a bench of bishops whose members are said to be colourless, and unrepresentatively liberal, a conservative evangelical group said yesterday.

In a pamphlet published by Church Society, Hugh Craig, a member of the General Synod standing committee and a Church Commissioner, criticises the structure of the Crown Appointments Commission (CAC). The commission was set up in 1976 to advise on the appointment of bishops.

The charges were made as the commission meets confidentially to decide which two candidates it will recommend to the prime minister for the post of Archbishop of Canterbury. "The mechanism of a commission of this sort is such that it does tend to appoint the people who have offended nobody. Adventurous candidates on the whole are not considered," Mr Craig said at a press conference.

"The conservative element in the church, those who hold traditional orthodox views are under-represented and those who hold with modern theology are over-represented, relative to their numbers in the church," he said. Although the pamphlet was written before Dr Robert Runcie announced his retirement, Mr Craig said: "Obviously if there are deficiencies in the system, it is a handicap the CAC carries with it in any appointment it makes."

The commission, whose deliberations are secret, was believed to have met yesterday to prepare a list of 10 to 14 names, and to set a date for a final three-day session to choose the two candidates who will be recommended to Margaret Thatcher. The prime minister will then make the final selection and forward her choice to the Queen.

For diocesan appointments, the commission consists of two archbishops, three clerics and three lay elected by the General Synod, and four people appointed by the relevant diocesan vacancy-in-see committee. For the appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury, it is chaired by a lay member of the Church of England selected by the prime minister, in this case Lord Caldecote.

The pamphlet, *Selecting Good Shepherds*, claims this system has resulted in a bench of bishops which "looks ever less like the leadership of a great national church, and ever more like a group of men, uncertain of their faith, trying to find a role to justify their position". Mr Craig said he did not wish to criticise any individual bishop, but the "uninspired performance of the bishops in the House of Lords", along with "public utterances which have shown scant regard for the priorities of the Gospel", had provoked growing unease.

"Respect for the authority of the episcopal bench is lower than it has been in living memory," the pamphlet claims. "Unless the gap between the balance of the House of Bishops and the balance of opinion in the parishes can be narrowed, the church will continue to suffer the haemorrhage of its lay membership, which has so weakened it in recent years."

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BA chief to be questioned over employee's dismissal

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

A SOLICITOR whose client was unfairly dismissed from her management job with British Airways will demand an explanation from Lord King of Wartonby, the chairman, at the airline's annual general meeting today.

Jane Lloyd, aged 47, a manager in the shuttle section, was suspended and then dismissed after 26 years with the airline after she and colleagues introduced a work roster which, she says, could have saved up to £1 million a year. Philip Troit, her solicitor, took the case to an industrial tribunal where the airline admitted she had been unfairly dismissed but did not give reasons.

"By admitting the claim they have effectively prevented details from being aired and the only course left open to us is to raise the matter in public before the shareholders," Mr Troit said.

Mrs Lloyd and three colleagues were asked to find savings on their budget two years ago. Led by the senior manager, they came up with a scheme aimed at improving productivity by introducing a five-day week (from 4.6 days) and shorter shifts. The plan was approved by management and trade union leaders but



Lord King: to be asked for explanation at AGM

opposed by some staff. "We explained the new procedures and other sections began to study ways in which it could be applied," Mrs Lloyd said.

"Then out of the blue the senior manager was given early retirement and I and the two other managers were told we were no longer required." The scheme was abandoned and Mrs Troit says she was offered a substantial sum "to get rid of me".

"I decided to fight because it would have been impossible for me to go to another employer and say I had been summarily dismissed but did not know why," she said.

Mrs Lloyd was temporarily seconded to another department for four months and a

report said she had "introduced a much-needed new approach and discipline to the task, resulting in reduction of product costs". No other jobs were formally offered to her, she said.

Robert Ayling, British Airways' legal director, wrote to Mr Troit in February saying Mrs Lloyd had been "displaced" because "her abilities were not suited to the changed role of the shuttle duty manager" and she could not find a suitable alternative job in BA.

Mr Troit said letters requesting further details of the severance and of another job within the airline were ignored and it was decided to go to an industrial tribunal.

Before the hearing, BA wrote saying it had reviewed the case and decided to admit liability to unfair dismissal and would not be attending the hearings. It said efforts had been made to find Mrs Lloyd a new job "including an offer made in the catering department, which she declined". That was denied by Mrs Lloyd, who succeeded in an application to the tribunal forcing details to be disclosed. No reply has been received.

BA said: "We cannot go into any detail until the tribunal sits and it would therefore be inappropriate to say anything further at the moment."

Campaign to curb power of European court grows

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MOVES to curb the power of the European Court of Justice grew yesterday as a Conservative MP called on government law officers for a full statement on United Kingdom sovereignty.

Roger Knapman, vice-chairman of the Conservative European affairs committee, said he was greatly concerned about the power of parliament after the recent European court ruling on Spanish fishing vessels. "I wonder if we are not just sitting here every day, making laws until the European Court decides to overrule them. In the light of that ruling, and the Single European Act, what exactly is the state of our sovereignty? How far down the slope have we gone?" Mr Knapman asked.

In a separate move yesterday Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, issued a second forceful attack on the European court, describing it as impudent and "a French court, dominated by continental thinking". Lord Denning said: "The judicial thinking in the European court is entirely contrary to the English system of justice. It was started by the French and the court thinks in continental ideas; the Germans are coming in too. It is dominated by continental thinking."

Lord Denning's comments coincided with the launch of a campaign by the Bruges Group, an academic think-tank, to curb the powers of the European court. Lord Denning, who is backing the campaign, went on to attack the lack of any route of appeal against its rulings. "It is a court of first instance, against which there is no appeal, and where decisions are by the majority, with no dissenting voices ever heard."

If the English judges spoke out in the court, Lord Denning said, no one would know about it. "This is contrary to every single idea of justice in the common law world," Mr

Knapman is supporting a campaign launched yesterday by the Bruges Group to curb the powers of the European court.

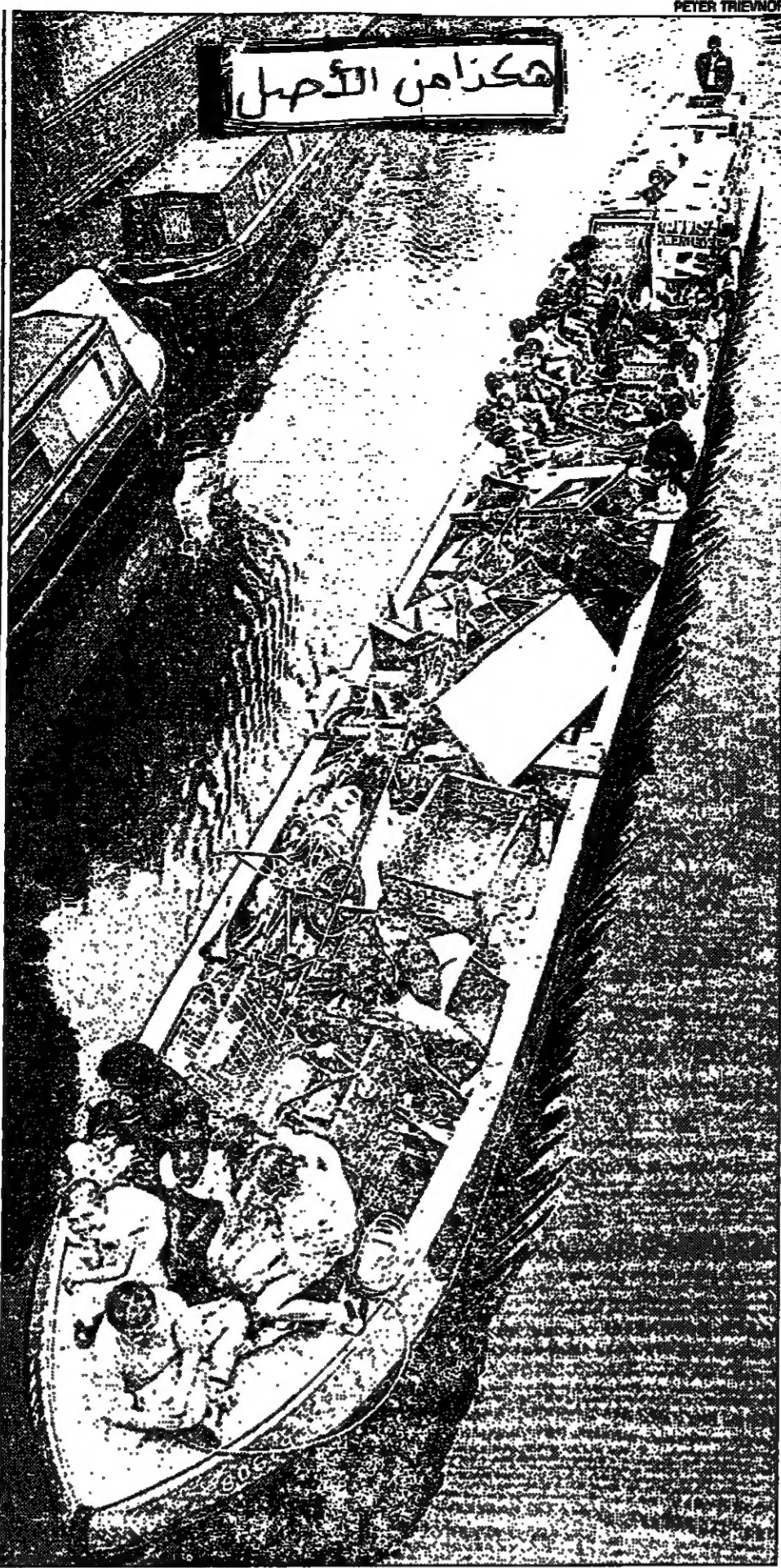
"When we joined the European Economic Community, we were assured that our sovereignty would be maintained and particularly that our laws would be enacted by our own parliament and not be overridden by any community institutions," he said.

In a powerful document by Gavin Smith, former lawyer in the European Commission, the group gives warning of a "clash between the doctrine of the sovereignty of parliament". Such a clash was much closer than before, it says. Its likelihood had been fuelled by the recent European court ruling on the Merchant Shipping Act, which empowered the House of Lords to suspend parts of the act so that 61 Spanish fishing vessels could carry on fishing against British quotas, pending a final decision on the case.

Yesterday Lord Denning said he was determined to stand against the recent European court ruling that English courts had power to suspend acts of parliament. "The European Court is an impudent court. We have an act of parliament protecting our waters from other fishing vessels. Yet the court is saying to us that our laws have got to be amended or suspended."

He urged legislation to amend the European Communities Act 1972 so that European rulings were no longer binding unless approved by the Lords. Unless this was done, he said, he was "afraid we shall knuckle under".

Lord Denning said the court had "manipulated the treaty [of Rome] to its own advantage and put on the treaty an interpretation according to its own view of policy; that is to harmonise all laws of the European Community and make them all the same."



Canal clean-up: children from Primrose Hill Junior School having a ride on one of four narrow boats that travelled on the Grand Union Canal from Birmingham to London to highlight the nuisance of litter along canals and to promote recycling

NUM team to discuss report with Lightman

By DAVID YOUNG

A DELEGATION from the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers is to meet Mr Gavin Lightman, QC, author of the critical report into the union's finances, today.

The four-man sub-committee is to report back to a full meeting of the NUM executive on Thursday, which is expected to endorse the Lightman report but to stop short of agreeing to demands by some Labour MPs that the police should be asked to investigate allegations in it.

The team will also seek advice on how the NUM can institute proceedings to gain access to funds that were paid into overseas bank accounts during the year-long miners' strike six years ago. It is likely that the NUM will appoint an international lawyer to try to establish if funds donated to the International Mining Organisation (IMO) from Russia were intended to provide aid for striking miners in Britain.

The four men will discuss with Mr Lightman the decision of last week's Durham annual conference to accept the report's recommendations.

It is estimated by some sectors of the NUM that about £1.8 million is held in accounts in Dublin and Vienna that are controlled by the Paris-based IMO, which is also headed by Arthur Scargill, the NUM president. He has suggested that the funds were donated by Soviet and East German miners for international, rather than British, use and that the NUM will be unable to gain access to them.

Alain Simon, the IMO general secretary, has given details of some of the bank accounts and has said that the money was always intended for international purposes.

Suggestions that money raised in Russia specifically intended to help NUM miners was not received have been denied. Mr Lightman had difficulty confirming details from Soviet miners about money donated during the strike, but in a television interview Vladimir Lunyov, the new leader of the Soviet miners, said: "The money was disposed of as follows - all shipments of food were sent to striking miners, 500 miners were given holidays in the Soviet Union, 40 people from South Wales miners' youth choir were received here, 12

young miners took part in the world festival of youth and students, and 30 trade union activists did courses at our movement's higher school."

Mr Lunyov said that over two million roubles were collected specifically to aid British miners during the strike. Mr Scargill believes that this Russian estimate is correct and said: "He has confirmed absolutely that the Soviet miners' union did not send money to the NUM. I believe it vindicates me completely."

By the time the NUM sub-committee reports to the full executive of the union on Thursday the TUC is expected to have received a reply from Mr Scargill to its request for a reassurance that the union did not receive funds from Libya during the strike.

Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, has said that he had been given a categorical assurance from Mr Scargill in

October 1984 that no funds came from Libya, but the Lightman report said that Mr Scargill did seek financial aid from Libya and that £150,000 could have come from the Libyan government.

Mr Willis's intervention has angered left-wing Labour MPs in the miners' parliamentary group. The group's 49 members have put forward a motion supporting the miners and Mr Dennis Skinner, the NUM-supported MP for Bolsover, has written to Mr Willis.

In his letter he says: "I think you have a check to stir the pot. Some of us recall that in the 1984-85 strike it took you a damned sight longer to give us assistance. If people like you and other leaders in the trade union and labour movement had put their full weight behind the strike, the result would have been totally different."

Judgment reserved in Blake escape case

By OUR LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TWO peace campaigners charged with helping George Blake, the Soviet spy, to escape from prison 24 years ago will have to wait a little longer to see if they have won a High Court fight to stop their criminal trial going ahead.

Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Hutchison yesterday reserved judgment in what is being seen as a legal test case brought by Patrick Pottle, a retired London antique dealer, and Michael Randle, a university lecturer. The two seek to quash the refusal in October of Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny at the Central Criminal Court to stop their criminal trial on charges of helping Blake to escape from Wormwood Scrubs in October 1966.

The case raises the issue, increasingly coming before the courts, of whether a delay in bringing a prosecution is such as to amount to an "abuse of process" and therefore to be prejudicial to the defendants. It also raises the issue of the power of the High Court to review decisions by judges sitting in the crown court. Barristers acting for Mr

Pottle, aged 51, of Crouch End, north London, and Mr Randle, aged 36, of Bradford, claim it would be oppressive and an abuse of the process of the courts for the trial to go ahead, because police had evidence to bring them to court 20 years ago.

The two men, who last year published a book about the affair, face sentences of up to five years if convicted for their alleged part in freeing Blake in October 1966. Blake was jailed in 1961 for 42 years after pleading guilty to spying for the Soviet Union.

The case centres on the extent of the High Court's jurisdiction under section 29 (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981, and whether a challenge could be brought in law to a decision of this kind by a judge in the crown court.

If successful, it could open the way to similar challenges where courts refuse to stay stale prosecutions and could "add a growing impetus to the willingness of the High Court to curb prosecutions where there has been considerable delay". No date has been fixed for the judgment.

"Only old people get heart disease."

Old people do get heart disease. But then again, over 5,000 babies were born last year with congenital heart conditions. Babies who have never smoked cigarettes, eaten junk food or touched a drop of alcohol. Babies who are just too young to have done any of the things we know can lead to heart disease.

The fact of the matter is that many thousands of people (not just babies) develop heart disease through no obvious fault of their own.

But advances in research have enabled medical professionals to detect heart defects in unborn babies, fit life-saving pacemakers in old-age pensioners and give many people the chance to lead happy, healthy lives. Much of this research is funded by the British Heart Foundation.

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Education officer denies money is kept from schools

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

HEAD teachers, a chief education officer and Mr John MacGregor, the education secretary, joined the argument yesterday on whether schools were being given real control over their budgets as the government's reforms intended.

Margaret Maden, chief education officer for Warwickshire, rejected claims made by Mr MacGregor in *The Times* that local education officers were holding back too much from school budgets to finance central services.

She told the annual conference at Leicester University of the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools: "When schools are subjected to the rigours of unprecedented change it is hardly surprising that they, the secretary of state, and a host of self-appointed commentators, look desperately for a scapegoat. They don't need to look far — the local authority is there to be blamed for all the spasms and convulsions of pain currently being experienced." In a clear message to

Mr MacGregor she said: "The unseemly back-biting has to stop and it ill-befoves us to be split asunder in a way which will simply result in deep divisions and inequality of opportunities for young people."

Mrs Maden said there were few riches in the reputed pots of gold allegedly being kept for administration rather than the classroom, a view challenged by David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Headteachers.

Mr Hart said that an NAHT survey suggested that local authorities were keeping back about £515 million each year to pay for supply, student and temporary teachers. That money should be given to schools who should decide how to spend it to meet their own needs.

Speaking at the London launch of a small survey on the effects of Local Management of Schools, designed to pass the day-to-day running of schools to heads and governors, Mr Hart said that

heads believed that the new arrangements would reduce the number of teachers, and the amount of classroom equipment and books.

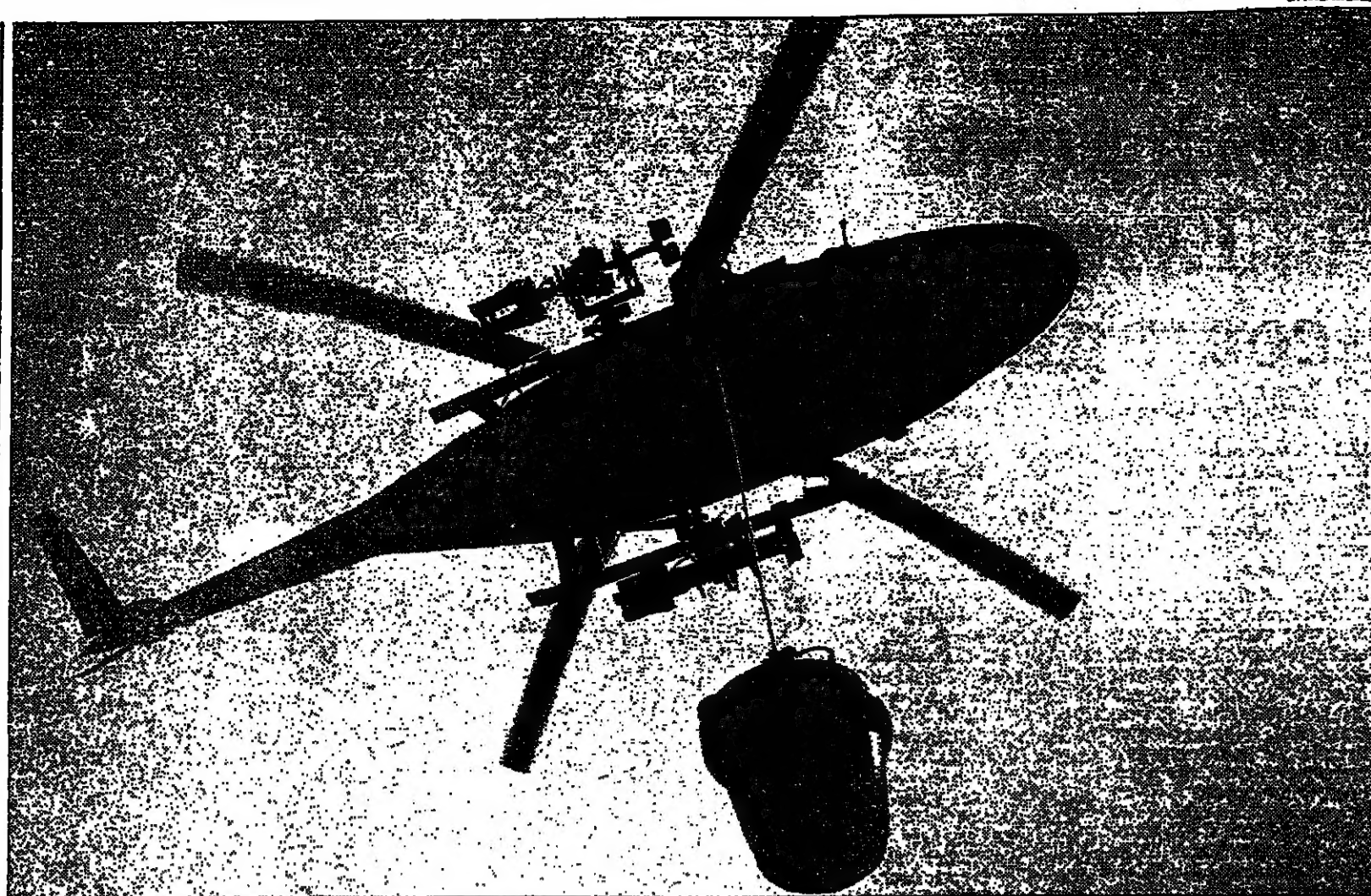
Mr Hart added that the views of 120 heads out of a total of 20,000 primary schools, and 29 secondary heads out of 5,000 schools, was a random sample covering a large variety of schools from many local authorities, which gave a valid picture of what was happening in state schools in England and Wales.

The survey was the latest move in the association's campaign against the government's decision to set schools on average rather than real costs. Mr Hart said that some heads were already having to make cuts, including staff, to bring their schools within budget.

Compulsory sackings of teachers were predicted by 29 per cent of the primary heads, with 16 per cent saying that other staff would also lose their jobs. 38 per cent said there would be cutbacks in books and equipment.

The replies from secondary heads showed that 48 per cent thought that they would lose teachers, 14 per cent predicted losses in non-teaching staff, and 29 per cent cuts in books and equipment.

Unimpressed by the survey, the education department said last night: "While some schools may be losing resources it is quite clear that others are gaining. The introduction of LMS is redressing past funding imbalances. If abrupt changes are occurring these must be as a result of local decisions, not government policy."



Holding on: A Lynx helicopter, carrying a bucket of water, hovers above an obstacle course while practising for tomorrow's Heli Meet 90 competition at Broadlands, Hampshire, Longleat House, Wiltshire, and Compton Abbas, Dorset. Teams from eight countries will take part

Councils face review

A HIGH Court judge has triggered proceedings that could lead to compensation claims against local authorities that fail to make adequate provision for the educational needs of children with learning difficulties.

Mr Justice Hutchinson granted leave for a High Court enquiry into the way three local authorities handled cases involving such children. If judicial review proceedings end with a ruling that the

councils failed to meet the children's needs, action is likely to follow in which compensation will be claimed. The councils are Surrey, Wiltshire, and the London Borough of Enfield.

More than £134 million is needed to repair 162 schools in Bradford, according to a report by the Labour-controlled council. The report will be given to John MacGregor, education secretary, when he visits the city next week.

Retirement choice

THE Government should introduce a flexible "decade of retirement" so that people can choose when they want to retire and have the option of working until they are 70, according to a report published today by the Institute for Public Policy Research (Jill Sherman writes).

Part-time work should be encouraged, with people over 60 able to draw a "part pension" on top of their earnings. "Ageism will emerge as an issue in the 1990s in the same way that sexism and

racism did previously," the report says.

"It is time to stop thinking of people in their 60s as 'old' or as a 'problem'." Flexible retirement between the ages of 60 and 70 should apply to both sexes, and laws governing unfair dismissal and redundancy should be extended accordingly, it says.

The Time of Our Life: Education, employment and retirement in the Third Age (IPPR, 18 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB)

Private Eye 'tried to make Ripper's wife stop action'

THE Attorney General yesterday renewed his attempt to have *Private Eye*'s editor, Ian Hislop, fined for contempt of court over publication of two articles about the Yorkshire Ripper's wife, Sonia Sutcliffe.

The articles, which claimed that Mrs Sutcliffe had provided her husband with a false alibi and had defrauded the social security department, appeared just three months before her libel action over another article in the satirical magazine.

Counsel for Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, the Attorney General, claimed that they were aimed at dissuading Mrs Sutcliffe from continuing her pending action over an allegation that she tried to cash in on her husband's notoriety by agreeing to sell her story to a newspaper for £250,000. They could also have influenced potential jurors.

Neither Mr Hislop nor Mrs Sutcliffe was in court yesterday.

Witnesses will not testify

WITNESSES vital to the defence of Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief, refused or were prevented from travelling to London to give evidence. Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday.

The three were Swiss professionals who dealt with Mr Saunders's assets and Zurich bank account. Peter Lakin, Mr Saunders's solicitor, flew to Switzerland in March to interview them.

Mr Lakin told the jury that Robert Hoyberger, a property manager, Peter Ende, an official of the Union Bank of Switzerland, and Maitre Bourgeois, a lawyer, all declined to give evidence in the fraud trial. He said Mr Hoyberger did not give a reason, Mr Ende was prevented by his employers from giving evidence, and Mr Bourgeois was told by his professional association that he could not attend.

Mr Lakin said there was no machinery to force them to attend court because a witness summons had no effect outside Britain.

Mr Saunders, Gerald Ronson, chairman of Heron International, the stockbroker Anthony Parnes and the financier Sir Jack Lyons deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act, relating to the Guinness £2.7 billion take-over of Distillers in 1986. The trial continues today.

today as Mr Alan Moses, QC, opened Sir Patrick's appeal against a ruling by Mr Justice Popplewell in March that the articles did not pose a threat to the administration of justice.

The judge dismissed the contempt proceedings, which at that stage included an application for Mr Hislop's committal to prison, although he said he was satisfied that the editor and publishers Pressdram Ltd had intended to bring pressure on Mrs Sutcliffe to drop her case.

Private Eye had not intended to influence potential jurors, the judge said. He was not satisfied that the articles amounted to contempt or that there was a risk of the libel trial being impeded or prejudiced. The articles, published in February 1989, were not likely to attract any publicity, the potential readers were limited and the trial, although close, was not imminent.

Mr Moses told the Court of Appeal that the judge had erred in ruling that no improper pressure had been put on Mrs Sutcliffe. He ought to have held that the articles were improper pressure because they were libellous and held Mrs Sutcliffe's name up to public obloquy.

The judge also erred in saying that there was no risk of prejudice to any jury or of Mrs Sutcliffe being deterred. There was a substantial risk of both, Mr Moses said.

The articles at the centre of yesterday's hearing accounted for the "aggravated" damages portion of the £600,000, later reduced by agreement to £60,000, awarded to Mrs Sutcliffe in May 1989. They were also the subject of a separate £100,000 settlement after the magazine accepted they were unfounded.

Sir Patrick has indicated that he is not now seeking to have Mr Hislop committed to prison. The appeal is expected to last between one and a half and three days. The hearing continues today when counsel are expected to conclude their arguments.



Ian Hislop: no risk of a prison sentence

Two year drink ban after arson attack

A sheriff yesterday banned Andrew Quinn, aged 23, from drinking for two years after the defendant admitted wilfully setting fire to his home on December 7, 1989, causing £5,000 of damage. The sheriff said Quinn would be in breach of probation if he ignored the ban.

The Edinburgh Sheriff Court was told that Quinn set fire to his flat in Muirhouse Gardens, Edinburgh, after visiting his wife in hospital. The couple are expecting their first child in a few weeks.

£550,000 award

Leon Steinfield, aged 53, a business executive who suffered severe head injuries in a road accident in December 1983, has been awarded £550,000 agreed damages at the High Court in London.

Boy missing

Police are searching for David Lewis, aged 12, who disappeared after leaving his home in Maysoule Road, west London, to go to John Archer School, in Wandsworth.

Coin exchange

A woman in Sherborne, Dorset, who nearly threw away a "washer" was paid £165 for the gold two and a half dollar piece at an auction in Crewkerne, Somerset.

Stroke damages

A sex offender who suffered a stroke after being given hormone treatment in prison has been awarded £10,000 agreed damages in the High Court. Alan Harpur, aged 52, was given an oestrogen implant in Wakefield jail in 1970.

Fire reward

Residents of Jaywick, near Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, have offered £1,000 for the capture of attackers who have set fire to three homes since December.

Offer rejected

Twenty-four thousand manual workers at ICI, Britain's biggest manufacturer, have rejected a 10.8 per cent pay offer.

Drivers' gift

Nigel Mansell, the Formula One racing car driver, has given £25,000 to a children's ward at Poole General Hospital in Dorset.

Untrained

Passengers waiting for the 8.41am train from Hartlepool to Darlington were taken by taxi, because the train driver did not know the way.

Barrister praises motorists who halted his drunken night drive

MICHAEL Mulholland, a barrister, who was banned from driving for five years yesterday, thanked the motorists who stopped and reported him.

Mulholland, aged 39, who was five and a half times over the drink-drive limit, praised three drivers who penned him in as he weaved across the lanes of a busy motorway. Speaking outside the magistrates' court at Morley, West Yorkshire, Mulholland said: "I would like to thank the three members of the public who stopped me that night."

Ronald Teeman, for the prosecution, and Shirley Binks, the presiding magistrate, had earlier commended Marcus Ellis, Dorion Khan and Gloria Blake for their "excellent public spiritedness". At an earlier hearing, the court was told how Mulholland, of Pudsey, near Leeds, was forced to stop his Renault as he veered across the M62. Mr Ellis, of Gildersome, Leeds, who was travelling behind the barrister, thought the driver was ill and drove in front of the Renault signalling him to stop. Mr Khan and Mrs Blake helped him to

hem in Mulholland's car. Mr Ellis called the police from an emergency phone box.

Mulholland, who admitted driving with excess alcohol, gave a reading of 191 microgrammes of alcohol when he was stopped on May 10. The legal limit is 35. Mr Teeman yesterday praised the three motorists. "Each individual, without consultation with the others, decided Mulholland should be stopped from driving any further."

The barrister, a member of a Leeds-based chamber covering the northeast Crown Court circuit, was disqualified for five years, given a three-month jail sentence suspended for two years, and fined £650 with £12 costs. Mrs Binks said that the alcohol level involved made it a very serious offence, but gave Mulholland credit for seeking help with his alcohol addiction problem.

After the hearing Mulholland said: "I can't say where I go from here; my future is very much in the melting pot." He agreed not to practise for two years after discussions with his head of chambers.

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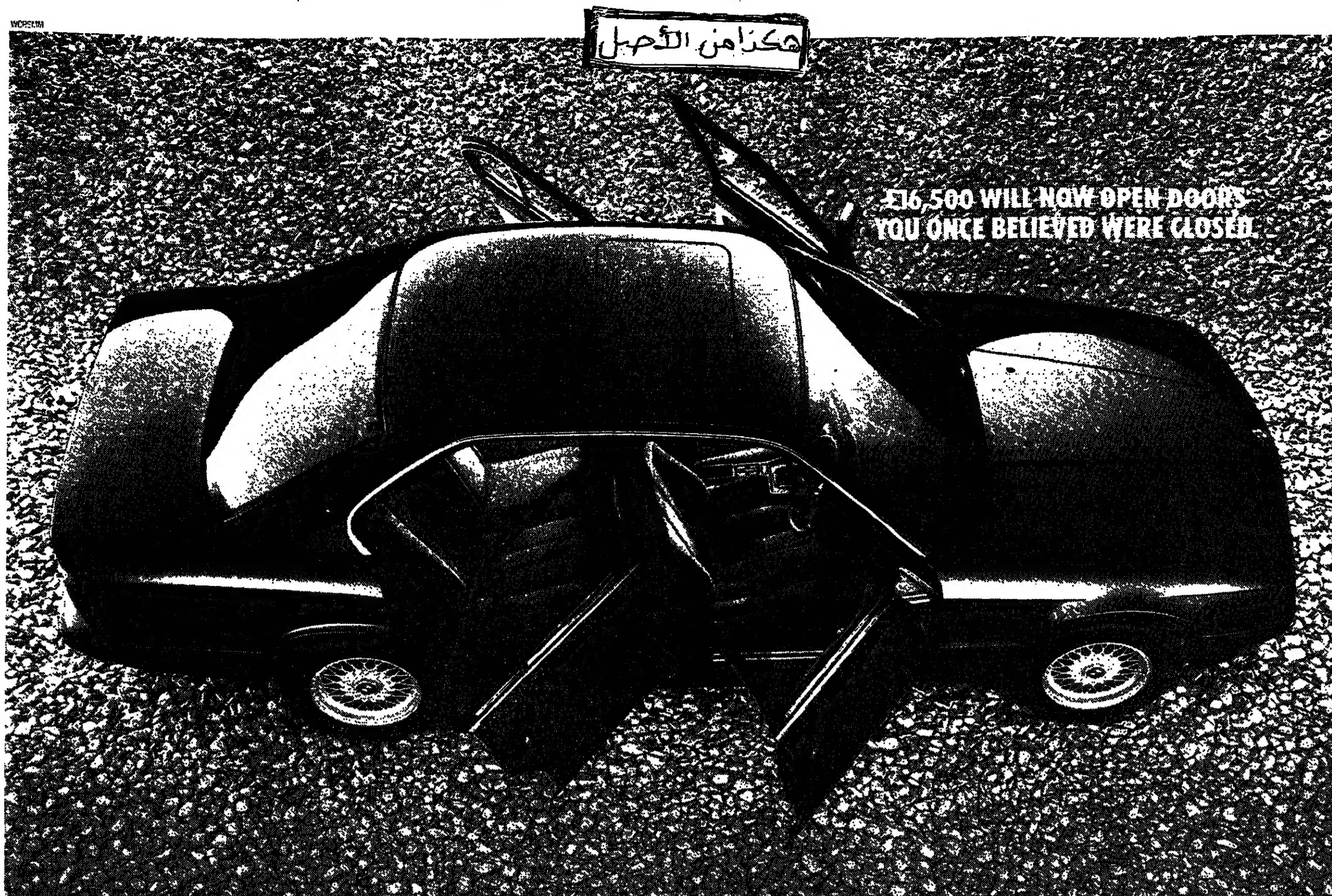
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Market development awaits democratic choice

By JOHN YOUNG

EIGHT people, including four originally from Bangladesh and one from Ghana, will meet in a room near Bethnal Green, east London, tomorrow evening to decide the fate of a proposed £500 million redevelopment of Spitalfields market, on the edge of the City.

An outbuilding at the back of the local neighbourhood centre may seem an incongruous setting for discussion of a project involving high finance, international architects and a permanent change in the character and appearance of a historic part of the capital.

The matter is far from just a local issue. The Spitalfields Trust was formed by architectural historians and journalists as long ago as 1977, with the aim of preventing further demolition and restoring as many as possible of the 18th-century merchants' houses.

There was talk of transforming the area into an east end version of Covent Garden, which, after years of controversy during the Sixties and Seventies, was saved from wholesale redevelopment and restored, to become one of London's biggest tourist attractions. The trust gained the support of a number of eminent people such as the late Sir John Betjeman. More recently, the Prince of Wales called for Spitalfields to be recreated as "an urban village for local people".

Critics of the trust accused it at the time of being just a front for "gentrification", in much the same way that the Covent Garden Community Association had complained that local people would be unable to afford hugely increased rents. Raphael Samuel, a social historian, described the restoration as pastiche and fake, and observed that lively Bengali workshops had been replaced by town houses for the rich, who contributed nothing to the life of the area.

Such arguments were, however, overshadowed by the City of London Corporation's determination that the market itself should be put out to tender for large-scale redevelopment.

A number of competing schemes were submitted, the latest of which has been strongly opposed by the Royal Fine Art Commission and the Georgian Group and condemned by *Architects' Journal* as "an architectural tragedy in the making".

Ironically, long after the local immigrant community might seem to have been excluded from a say in the matter, five of its members are among the eight people who have the task of approving or rejecting the plans. All of them are members of Tower



A view of Hawksmoor's Christ Church in Spitalfields, east London, flanked by the old market buildings on the left

Hamlets council, whose Spitalfields ward is estimated to be 70 per cent Bengali-speaking.

The explanation for this paradox lies in what the Liberal Democrats, who control the council, call community politics. Almost certainly, no other council in Britain has gone so far in devolving its powers.

The process began in 1986, when the SLD won control

through the casting vote of the mayor and immediately set up seven neighbourhood committees, each of between six and nine councillors. This meant a degree of power-sharing with the opposition, since two neighbourhoods, Wapping and the Isle of Dogs, returned only Labour councillors.

The sacrifice was thought to be worthwhile in the interests of involving local people in matters

that immediately concerned them and in giving them a greater voice in the way the borough was run. It seems to have worked, to judge from the results of this year's elections, when, against forecasts of a swing to Labour, the SLD increased its majority to ten.

Total devolution is impossible, and the full council remains responsible for the budget, the community charge, housing and

rents, social services and for dealings with the government and other bodies. It also takes the final decision on important planning issues, such as Canary Wharf, in the Isle of Dogs, which have more than merely local implications.

"Technically Spitalfields also comes into this category," Jeremy Shaw, chairman of the Bethnal Green neighbourhood committee, said. "But in practice the matter has been left in our hands, and I have no doubt that whatever we decide will be ratified by the council as a formality."

To the dismay of the Labour party, and of those still strongly opposed to the development, it seems almost certain to be given the go-ahead. The original application by the Spitalfields Development Group was approved three years ago and, although there have since been alterations, including a change of architects, Mr Shaw sees no difference in principle.

"The market is moving [to a site further east] and that is a fact," he said. "There is no point in burying our heads in the sand. It's all very well for our critics to wish that the

world were different, but we have to live in the world as it is."

All the listed buildings on the site would be retained, he said. Mr Shaw thinks that the new buildings will be sympathetic to the character of the area, and there will be some gains for the local community.

He said: "Realistically, there are very few people saying 'Yes please, let's have more offices, they're just what we want'. But equally there are very few people who think that all new development is bad and that the market should have been retained at all costs."

Douglas Blain, secretary of the trust, said yesterday: "The secretary of state should bring the matter to a public enquiry immediately. It is one of the worst development schemes since the last war, and it would be a major disaster if it were to proceed."

Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage, said: "There has never been a proper forum at which all the issues could be discussed. In the past it would certainly have gone to a public enquiry."

Rampage at Bristol 'caused by Dartmoor intake'

HANDCUFFED prisoners tried to smash their way through the windows of a coach while being transferred between prisons, the enquiry by Lord Justice Woolf into prison disturbances was told yesterday. The prisoners tried to escape from one of two coaches carrying 40 of them to Horfield prison, Bristol, after disturbances at Dartmoor.

Melvyn Knott, security principal officer, told the enquiry at Taunton, Somerset: "When I got there a number of prisoners were hanging out of the windows, screaming and shouting. There was glass flying everywhere. Both vehicles were safely brought into the prison compound."

Mr Knott was giving evidence on the run-up to the trouble at Horfield, which led to £1 million-worth of damage in less than 12 hours when 450 prisoners went on a rampage of destruction. The disturbance started on Sunday evening, April 8, and was ended the following morning when teams of prison officers made a co-ordinated sweep.

Replying to Mr David Latham, QC, Mr Knott said the prison authorities were warned on April 4 that there might be trouble. "It is my belief that the trouble started because of the intake of prisoners from Dartmoor. The troubles were not caused by the conditions at Bristol. They were caused by a small group of prisoners who went hell-bent on causing trouble."

Senior officer Colin Willis said he and others attempted to break into a cell on A wing from the outside, believing an officer to be trapped there. He used oxy-acetylene equipment to try to cut through the cell's bars, protected by riot shields under a hail of missiles from inmates on the roof.

The team finally withdrew after one of the riot shields was cracked and missiles struck the gas bottles, causing the explosive mixture to leak. Mr Willis said that one officer was hit by a missile and fell unconscious. "We thought he was dead," he agreed with Mr Latham that the team were under "severe threat" of being killed.

Lord Justice Woolf told Mr Willis: "On behalf of the enquiry I would say that you and the men with you acted in a most commendable and courageous manner."

The enquiry continues today.

Move to save Whitechapel baths

A LAST-ditch campaign has been launched to prevent the closure this week of a notable Victorian institution. Whitechapel baths in east London (John Young writes).

Although the baths are said to be used by 80,000 people a year, Tower Hamlets council says they are too expensive to run and plans to sell the site to developers.

The baths were built in 1846 in one of the poorest areas of the capital as a place for people to wash, swim and do their laundry. The

swimming pools were rebuilt after being bombed in the Blitz and attract a range of patrons, from schoolchildren to members of the Bengali community in Spitalfields, to white-collar City workers.

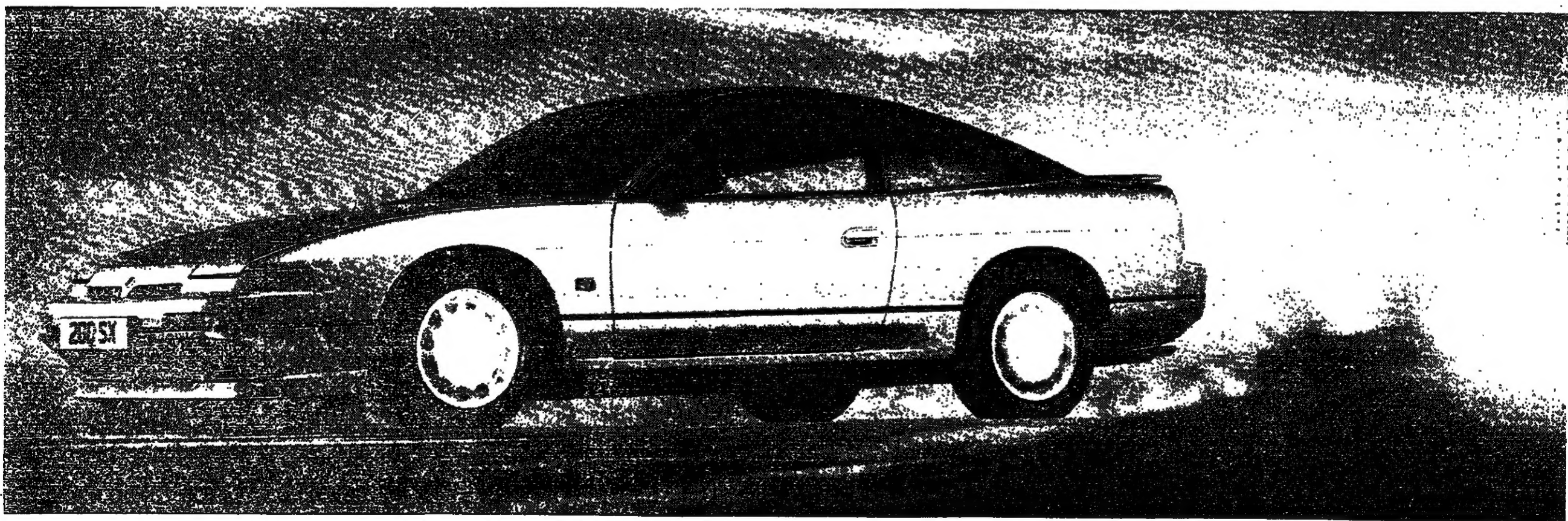
The campaign is supported by Peter Shore, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets, and by the former Conservative minister, John Profumo, president of Toybee Hall, an east end charitable settlement. "I am appalled to hear that the

only swimming baths which serve Whitechapel and Spitalfields, one of the most deprived inner-city areas of Britain, are to close with so little public discussion," Mr Profumo said.

"The closure can only be justified if every possible means has been investigated to keep them open, and I believe there are avenues which have not been explored. Surely, at the very least, the baths can be kept open until other facilities can be built."

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Opposition fails to obtain debate on Ridley affair

ATTEMPTS by the Opposition to force an emergency Commons debate on events surrounding the resignation of Nicholas Ridley as trade and industry secretary failed yesterday.

During noisy exchanges, the prime minister was accused of bigotry and malevolence and having neither the guts nor the candour to come to the House to make a statement.

Giles Radice (Durham North, Lab) said that he called for the emergency debate because the prime minister's failure to dismiss Mr Ridley for his appalling remarks about a unified Germany in *The Spectator* showed that she agreed with his views, if not his language.

He said that his application also related to the minutes of a meeting at Chequers that discussed the German character. It

THE SPEAKER

had been attended by the prime minister and the foreign secretary and disclosed grossly over-simplified and insulting views about German national characteristics.

Such xenophobic opinions should not have been discussed by a responsible prime minister and the House should have an opportunity to rebut them as soon as possible.

An emergency debate was important because it concerned Britain's relations with Germany, an ally in Nato, a fellow member of the European Community and our chief trading partner.

The situation was urgent because the foreign secretary was attending an EC foreign affairs council meeting at which British trade ministers were present.

Ministers representing this country ought to be reinforced by the views of the House and that was why it was essential that MPs should have an opportunity to disown the anti-German views of the prime minister.

The Speaker, Bernard Weatherill, said that he had decided that the application did not come within the criteria of the standing orders that would allow an emergency debate to take priority over the existing business of the House.

Dr John Cunningham, shadow leader of the House, said that a senior member of the government "much loved by the prime minister" had resigned under the most disgraceful circumstances.

"The prime minister has neither the guts nor the candour to come here and make a statement. There ought to be circumstances, either through this procedure or other procedures of the House, in which the Opposition has an opportunity to cross-question the prime minister about this state of affairs."

British ministers were trying to restore the credibility of the government in the European Community, in Nato and elsewhere. This matter could be discussed in Brussels and Strasbourg, but not, it appeared, in the House of Commons.

"We have a prime minister with a duty and responsibility to build up the reputation of this country in a widening and developing Europe, who displays an attitude of bigotry and malevolence."

The Speaker said that he had to take all relevant matters into consideration in making his decision. The matter could be raised during prime minister's questions on Tuesday or Thursday and the Opposition had a debate available to it on Wednesday that could be used for the same purpose.

Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) said that news media throughout the world were allowed to discuss the matter, but not the House of Commons. The House had originally been the great forum for debate. That right should be defended.

There was not unanimity of opinion on either side of the House about nationalism and federalism and it would not be enough to cross-examine the prime minister for 15 minutes on a Tuesday or Thursday or for the Opposition to change its subject for debate on Wednesday.

Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, Lib Dem) said that it was evident from the meeting at Chequers that the prime minister was seeking extraordinary advice to confirm her own prejudices.

Sir Peter Horden (Horsham, C) said that there had been a

most unusual turn of events which the House would like to discuss. The Opposition should use its debate on Wednesday for the purpose.

Dr Cunningham said that the leader of the Opposition had the privilege of asking a private notice question of the government. Since Mr Kinnock was in the United States winning friends for Britain, while the prime minister sat sulking at home losing friends for Britain, could this privilege not be granted to some other member of the Opposition?

The Speaker said that the rules were clear, the privilege related only to the leader of the Opposition.

During questions on Wales, Barry Jones, the Opposition spokesman, said that Mr Ridley had done Wales a disservice in his infamous interview.

West Germany had 43 companies in Wales and 900 in Britain. One-sixth of West German manufacturing investment in Britain was in Wales.

He asked David Hunt, the Welsh secretary: "Was he not glad to see him go, he having done such damage to Britain's interests?"

Mr Hunt declined to reply.

Leading article, page 15
Letters, page 15



Mending fences: Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, at the European Community foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels yesterday

Tax concession for actors 'is not enough'

TREASURY

THE government's concession in allowing actors and entertainers to count agents' fees against tax was not enough, Christopher Smith, an Opposition Treasury spokesman, told MPs.

During the report stage of the Finance bill, which implements the Budget proposals, he said that Equity, the actors' union, had complained that agents' fees represented only a small part of the considerable expenses that actors incurred as a result of their professional activities.

"While this is welcome relief, it is not, in the view of the profession, enough to tackle the problem they have with expenses they incur in the course of their work", he said.

He complained that stand-up comics had been left out of the government's new clause to the bill that contained the concession. He was sure that that was unintentional.

Peter Lilley, the new trade and industry secretary, speaking in his former capacity as Treasury financial secretary, said that the new relief would apply to fees paid by an actor, singer, musician, dancer or theatrical artist to agents operating commercially. Fees paid on earnings received after April 5 this year, and the value-added tax paid on them, up to a limit of 17.5 per cent of earnings, would qualify.

"I believe that this will give all members of the profession who are assessed under schedule E a very significant and worthwhile measure of tax relief. There has been consultation with the in-

dustry on the precise form of the relief, so it should properly reflect the special circumstances in which agents' fees are paid by actors and other artists."

Sir Michael Marshall (Arun-del, C), adviser to West End theatre managements and a member of Equity, said that the concession applied only to those established in the profession who had agents. The government should consider the position further.

Mark Fisher, Opposition spokesman on the arts, said that, although the concession was welcome, it went less than half way to meeting the excellent case made against changing actors' taxation from self-employed status. Actors were badly paid and their work was insecure. If their expenses were not deductible, they said that it would be virtually impossible to make ends meet.

It was a disgrace that Richard Luce, the arts minister, had had nothing to say. The acting profession would expect something on the public record.

Christopher Butler (Warrington South, C) said that the action against actors was part of a general Inland Revenue campaign against the self-employed. A freelance secretary in his constituency had been told she was employed because she did not carry a typewriter when she went to her clients' premises.

Timetable for care scheme

Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, will outline the timetable for the introduction of the government's community care proposals tomorrow, peers were told at question time.

Lady Hooper, a junior health minister, said in the Lords that it was still planned to bring in the proposals by next April.

However, after peers expressed concern at reports that the proposals will be delayed to avoid a rise in the community charge, she said that a statement would be made by Mr Clarke during an Opposition debate in the Commons on Wednesday.

Help hint for clergy

Michael Alison, who answers in Parliament for the Church Commissioners, expressed the hope that the government would try to help clergymen who have to pay the community charge twice if they buy their own homes.

Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) had said during questions that clergymen had to take on a second home because they could not own their official home.

Fire concern

Fire officers have told the environment department that proposals in its consultation paper on building regulations could lead to a reduction in standards for means of escape in case of fire. Michael Spicer, environment minister, said that the fire officers' points would have to be considered.

Big Ben cash

The new hammer arm needed to restore Big Ben's hourly chimes will cost £8,000. Christopher Chope, an environment minister, said in a Commons written reply. Work on replacing the arm should be completed by next month.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Defence; prime minister; Finance bill; conclusion of remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Landlord and Tenant (Licensed Premises) bill, report. Debate on defence.

Kennedy elected by large majority

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHARLES Kennedy has won a big majority in the election to be the new president of the Liberal Democrats.

Mr Kennedy, MP for Ross, Cromarty and Skye, secured 24,648 votes compared with 4,118 for his nearest rival, Tim Clement-Jones, in an election in which only 36 per cent of party members voted.

He takes over from Ian Wigglesworth in September and said his main role would be to help the party to prepare for the next general election. Mr Kennedy, aged 30, said: "Our success in securing 18 per cent of the vote in the local elections,

coupled with an inevitable end of the confusion in the centre ground, means that we are now well placed to move forward."

Mr Kennedy took 82.2 per cent of the vote by party members. Mr Clement-Jones 16 per cent and Brian Groucott 1.4 per cent. The party presidency is held for two years and is filled by postal ballot.

The new president said the result was final proof of the natural cohesion between the Social Democrats and Liberals. In the next few months the party must put forward its views with clarity and vigour.

Paddy Ashdown, the party leader, said Mr Kennedy's presentation skills would be of particular value.

Teaching Welsh

THERE were protests from both sides of the Commons at the compulsory teaching of the Welsh language to five-year-olds in Dyfed, west Wales.

Sir Wyn Roberts, minister of state, Welsh Office, said that David Hunt, secretary of state, would make an announcement in due course on the results of consultation about schools wanting to be exempted from including Welsh as a subject in the curriculum.

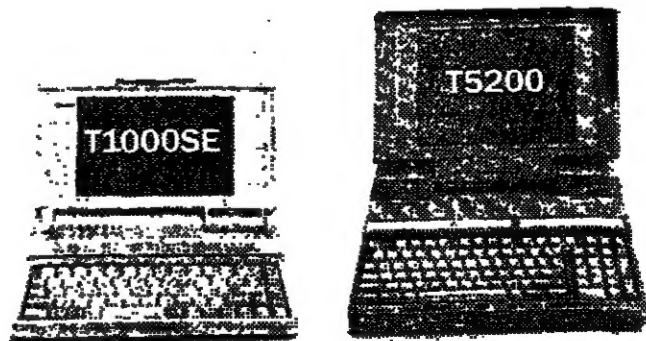
Nicholas Bennett (Pembroke, C) said that the best way to encourage the teaching of Welsh was to introduce a policy that did not involve compulsion and to give freedom of choice by exempting schools from compulsory classes in Welsh.

Sir Wyn: "The word compulsion is anathema to me as to him, but Mr Bennett must recognise that there is an element of compulsion in learning school subjects. The categorisation of schools in Dyfed is primarily for the local education authority."

Alan W. Williams (Cardiff, Lab) said that every child had a right to be educated in his or her mother tongue, but in Dyfed the education authority had introduced a policy of having all rural schools Welsh-teaching, without consultation. Many children were thus deprived of the right to learn in their mother tongue.

In a later reply, Sir Wyn said that 27 members of the Dyfed education authority, an independent authority, were members of Plaid Cymru.

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Unity accord a landmark in Russo-German relations

By DANIEL JOHNSON

THE Kohl-Gorbachev agreement, paving the way to a united Germany within Nato, is comparable in its historical significance to any of the landmarks in Russo-German relations over the past century.

Ever since Tsar Alexander I offered Prussia, prostrate at the feet of Napoleon, a friendly hand, there has been a powerful pro-Russian lobby in Germany. Bismarck, who had served as ambassador in St Petersburg, attached great importance to Russian friendship.

The reactionary policies of the tsars, however, made them the arch-villains of German liberals and socialists for most of the 19th century. Though the Prussian and Russian monarchs were closely related, and the new German empire created in 1871 shared with Russia a common interest in suppressing Polish nationalism, tensions began to increase even before Bismarck's dismissal by

Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1890. The Kaiser did not renew the "Iron Chancellor's" Russian treaty, and treated his cousin, Tsar Nicholas II with disdain.

Although German trade and investment in Russia grew during the 20th century, military rivalry led to the Franco-Russian alliance. German support for Austro-Hungary's war in the Balkans brought about the conflagration of the first world war and the end of a long peace between Russia and Germany.

At first, the Russians advanced deep into East Prussia, but they were defeated at Tannenberg by Hindenburg and Ludendorff, who were to become virtual dictators later in the war. In 1915 the Germans conquered most of Russian Poland, but the murderous war on the eastern front dragged on inconclusively, despite the tsar's deposition early in 1917, until General Ludendorff's assistance to Lenin made the Bolshevik revolution possible in October. After the

peace imposed by the Germans at Brest-Litovsk in 1917, the Bolsheviks did not view the Germans with favour.

But after the German defeat and revolution in November 1918, Lenin was able to recover most of the lost territories and to foment communist uprisings in Germany itself. These failed, but the German Communist party became subservient to Moscow after the murders of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht in January 1919.

The Weimar Republic and the Soviet Union were both pariahs in postwar Europe. In 1922 the German foreign minister, Walther Rathenau, stunned Europe by signing a pact with the hitherto isolated Soviet state at Rapallo. This opened up a brief, golden age of German-Soviet relations: German industry provided the equipment for Stalin's industrialisation and collectivisation programmes. Hitler's seizure of power in 1933 brought this period to an end with his militant anti-com-

munist, and the two countries rearmed at breakneck speed. The Nazi expansion in Eastern Europe began.

Just as Britain and France were on the point of reaching agreement with Stalin in the summer of 1939, the Nazi foreign minister, Joachim Ribbentrop, signed his notorious pact with his Soviet counterpart, Vyacheslav Molotov, in July 1939. The secret protocols were a death warrant for Poland and the Baltic republics, which were duly occupied by the two dictators in 1939 and 1940.

But in June 1941, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union. After initial prodigious victories, the Germans came to a halt before Moscow, were stopped again in 1942, and in February 1943 suffered their decisive defeat at Stalingrad. The Soviet counter-offensive continued until the battle of Berlin in 1945.

The division of Germany, which had never been intended by the Western allies, was forced upon them by Stalin's attempt to stifle West Berlin in 1948-

1949. With the creation of the two German states in 1949 the division was not finalised. Even in 1952 Stalin, in his famous "note", was still attempting to persuade the allies to settle for a neutral, united Germany.

Relations between Bonn and Moscow took a long time to re-establish, though Adenauer's visit to Moscow in 1955 was a landmark. Under the so-called Hallstein doctrine, however, West Germany refused to recognize the East German state and hence relations with Moscow remained frosty throughout the 1960s. Only with the advent of Willy Brandt as chancellor in 1969 did the climate change. The Moscow treaty of 1972 formally wound up the legacies of the war and put relations on to a more or less normal footing.

However, the Honecker regime in East Berlin ensured that Soviet-West German relations did not become too cosy throughout the 1970s and early 1980s. Herr Brandt's successor, Helmut

Schmidt, invited Leonid Brezhnev to two summits in Bonn and limited economic co-operation began, but the "German question" was always taboo at their otherwise cordial talks.

Under Helmut Kohl the relationship at first took a turn for the worse, when the chancellor compared Mikhail Gorbachev to Goebbels in an interview with *Newsweek* in 1986. By December 1988, however, Mr Gorbachev had signalled his willingness to mend fences. Their Moscow summit was a resounding success.

In June 1989 Mr Gorbachev returned to Bonn, and this time Herr Kohl received something more tangible: a joint declaration of belief in the right of German self-determination. The full meaning of this became clear only in the autumn, when the East German revolution forced Moscow to come to terms with German reunification.

Leading article, page 15

Ukrainian parliament declares its sovereignty

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE parliament of the Ukraine, the Soviet Union's second largest republic, passed a declaration of sovereignty yesterday that gives its laws precedence over all-union laws.

The republic intends to become a neutral state, maintaining its own army and introducing its own currency. The declaration made no mention of seceding from the Soviet Union, however, and Tass, reported that most speakers in the debate said secession should not be an aim.

The declaration, approved by a majority of 355 to four, brought the Ukraine into line with the Baltic States, the Russian Federation, Moldova and the central Asian republic of Uzbekistan, which have all adopted declarations of sovereignty in recent

months. While the Ukraine has not gone as far as the Baltic States, and has held back from demanding independence, it has gone further than Moldova, Uzbekistan or the Russian Federation in giving itself the right to maintain its own armed forces, interior ministry troops and state security.

In the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, the Ukrainian declaration claims the right for the republic to seek compensation from the Soviet authorities for "damages caused to the republic's ecology by union bodies". Like all power stations in the Soviet Union, Chernobyl was run by the Soviet authorities, and was not subordinate to republic or local officials.

The effect of the Ukrainian sovereignty declaration, like that of the sovereignty declarations of other republics, will become clear only when draft legislation is published that clashes in some way with central legislation. The Ukrainian parliament will be in recess over the summer, so the declaration is unlikely to be tested before the autumn.

There has so far been no response from Moscow to the Ukrainian parliament's decision, but the Soviet leadership waited for what it regarded as "anti-constitutional" legislation to be passed before it took action against Lithuania.

The Ukraine is a republic rich in agricultural land and minerals and is highly industrialised. A change in its relations with the centre could be expensive for Moscow.

A sovereignty declaration by itself would be in line with proposals made by President Gorbachev for a new union treaty designed to make the Soviet Union into a "union of sovereign socialist states". The title that is known of the drafting procedure suggests that individual republics will be allowed considerable economic and political autonomy. Security is one area, however, where independent action is unlikely to be acceptable.

The Ukrainian declaration came after a weekend of violence in Stepanakert, the capital of the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh in the Caucasus, where the manager of a bomb attack on her house, in the Fergana Valley in Central Asia, on the Uzbekistan-Kirghizia border, there were renewed clashes between Uzbeks and Kirghiz, despite a ban on mass gatherings.

Spy chief calls for clemency

From ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

MARKUS Wolf, East Germany's veteran spy chief, emerged from months of silence yesterday and admitted that the state security service, whose espionage department he headed for 30 years, had been "at the heart of the apparatus of repression in the GDR's Stalinist system".

But he denied claims by Western security agencies that he had handed over former agents to the KGB, and called on the East German government to show clemency to thousands of Stasi agents who had become the "whipping boys of the nation".

Herr Wolf, recently returned from Moscow where he is reported to have provided the KGB with the names of all leading agents abroad, told the youth newspaper *Junge Welt* that the reports were "absolute rubbish", and that he had visited Moscow for two months "to work on my book in peace".

High-ranking Stasi agents, he said, were in a desperate position facing both the wrath of the East German people and possible prosecution after the merging of the two Germanys. "They acted for years, decades even, out of conviction. Some even spent years in prison", he said. "Now they find themselves called Stasi-swine and excluded from society".

He said his own department of 4,000 experts, euphemistically known as "enlighteners" had "nothing in common" with the internally repressive state security service led by Erich Mielke.

Herr Wolf's resignation in 1987 was seen as one of the earliest votes of no confidence in the leadership of Erich Honecker, the former president. He is thought to hold the key to the dissolution of the country's security service abroad.

A request last month by Peter Diestel, the interior minister, that he should help dismantle the service caused such "stony" that it had to be revoked. Herr Wolf still refuses to name the number of agents active abroad, but it is thought to be on his orders that the weekly coded messages broadcast to them on short-wave radio were finally stopped last week.

He has also warned that unless the agents are compensated for their loss of earnings and status they could turn to extremist organisations.

Many East German spies had joined the West German security service, he said.



Helmut Kohl and President Gorbachev keeping up the dialogue during a break from their talks on a united Germany. The two leaders thrashed out an agreement during talks in Moscow on Sunday and in Pyatigorsk, in the northern Caucasus, Mr Gorbachev's home area.

Bonn rivals claim credit for Soviet deal

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

WEST German government and opposition politicians welcomed the news yesterday that the Soviet Union would no longer object to a united Germany being a member of Nato. Both claimed credit for removing this last big obstacle to reunification.

For the Christian Democrats (CDU) it was "a triumph for Helmut Kohl". For the Social Democrats (SPD) it was a success that had been made possible only because Willy Brandt had led the way with his Ostpolitik.

Volker Rübe, the general secretary of the CDU, said a high point in German-Soviet relations had been reached. "German reunification with full sovereignty by the end of the year no longer hangs in the balance. The new Europe has taken on a concrete form."

In agreeing to limit the size of the German armed forces to 370,000, Herr Kohl had taken a decisive step towards resolving both the external questions of unity and the arms negotiations in Vienna.

The meeting had laid the foundation stone for a new, lasting, peaceful and trusting basis for the relations between both countries.

Horst Ehmke, the SPD's defence spokesman, did his best to detract from Herr Kohl's achievement without denying that the agreement was a success. He said it was thanks to Herr Brandt and warned that the new deal with

the Soviet Union must not harm the delicate relationship with Poland, which is meant to be set out in treaty form in Paris today.

Herr Ehmke pointed out that Herr Kohl had earlier upset the Poles by when he refused to accept unequivocally the present western Polish frontier.

Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD's expected candidate against Herr Kohl in the next election, also said that Herr Kohl had failed to dispel foreigners' fears about Ger-

man. Speaking before the outcome of the visit was known, Herr Lafontaine nevertheless realised that the chancellor was buying an agreement, and he was anxious to point him in the worst possible light.

He used the case of Nicholas Ridley, who resigned as trade and industry secretary at the weekend, to press his point.

"Even in England, despite his much-vaunted friendship with the prime minister, he has not succeeded in getting

rid of existing fears and enemy perceptions. The current debate in England would suggest rather the opposite," Herr Lafontaine said.

The chancellor had created scepticism abroad about West German foreign policy by his push for German unity and his lack of consultation, his rival told a news conference in Bonn.

The deal struck in the Soviet Union does, in fact, seek to resolve some of the issues that are meant to be approved in the negotiations

between the two Germans and the four second world war allies, in Paris for their third meeting today.

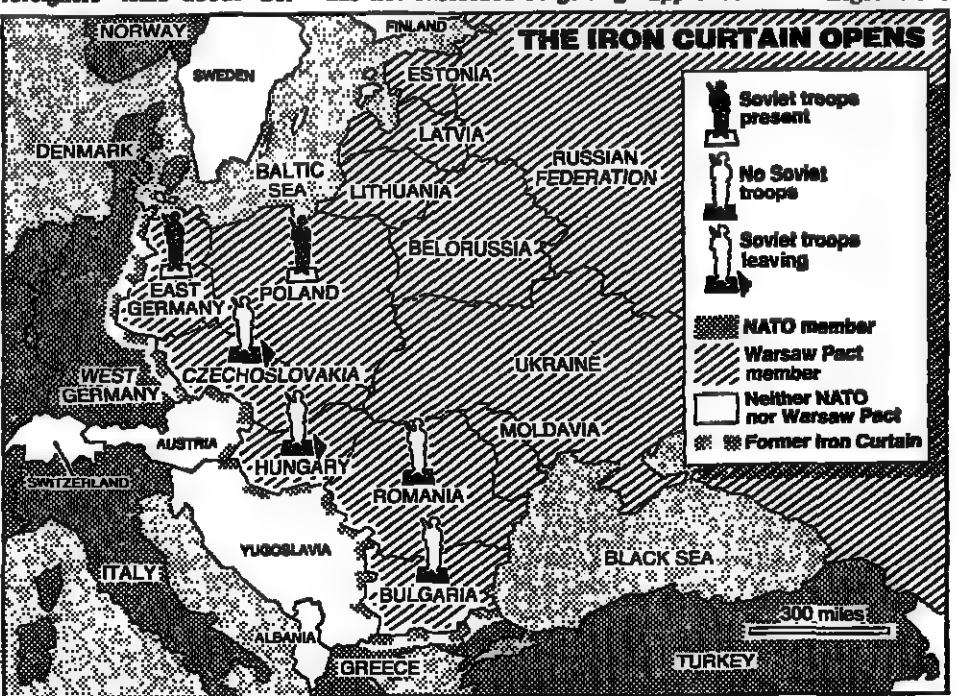
It is possible that the positions were agreed in consultation with the Western allies during the Nato and economic summits earlier this month, but the appearance is that the negotiations have been conducted solely between the chancellor and the Soviet leader.

Herr Kohl has agreed to a level of troop reductions, which will bring the new German army down to less than the projected combined size of the two armies of the superpowers in central Europe.

Nato may have given prior approval for him to suggest this figure, although in theory any such negotiations should be conducted in Vienna between the two alliances.

The chancellor has also agreed the terms and conditions on which the three Western allies can keep troops in West Berlin, undertaking to negotiate new stationing arrangements after Soviet troops have withdrawn from East German territory in three years.

This again may have been co-ordinated in advance with the Western allies, who have already said they will respect the sovereignty of the united German state to decide which allied troops it wants stationed where.



Nicu Ceausescu 'opposed father'

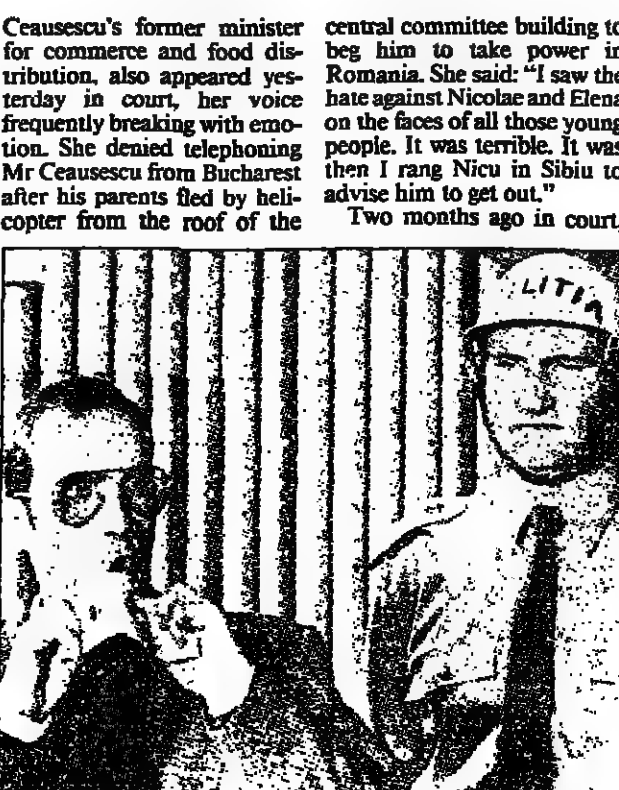
From CATHERINE ADAMS IN SIBIU, ROMANIA

GENERAL Iuliu Vlad, the jailed former leader of Romania's hated Securitate secret police, yesterday appeared in public for the first time since the revolution to testify that Nicu Ceausescu, son of the late dictator, opposed his parents' policies and had not asked for any special security measures in Sibiu.

Mr Ceausescu was appearing in a Romanian court for the second part of his trial on charges of genocide. He is accused of ordering security forces to open fire on demonstrators last December in Sibiu, where he was first secretary of the Communist party, when 92 people were reportedly killed.

General Vlad, appearing as a defence witness, suggested that task forces were brought in from abroad to suppress the revolutionaries. Dowdy and bespectacled, he claimed that Mr Ceausescu, aged 39, was always reluctant to carry out Securitate orders and indicated he had nothing to do with the massacre.

Ana Muresan, President



Nicu Ceausescu looking gaunt and tired in a Sibiu court yesterday as he denied charges of genocide

Ceausescu's former minister for commerce and food distribution, also appeared yesterday in court, her voice frequently breaking with emotion. She denied telephoning Mr Ceausescu from Bucharest after his parents fled by helicopter from the roof of the

central committee building to beg him to take power in Romania. She said: "I saw the hate against Nicolae and Elena on the faces of all those young people. It was terrible. It was then I rang Nicu in Sibiu to advise him to get out."

Two months ago in court,

Mr Ceausescu claimed that an order he gave to crush the uprising was a throwaway remark made when he was drunk, and that he retracted it when he was sober.

The frail figure in court yesterday contrasted sharply with the sprightly defendant in May who frequently leapt up, interrupting the judge, to question witnesses himself with animated gestures. He looked gaunt and thin, dwarfed in an outside jacket. He told journalists recently that he had chronic cirrhosis of the liver and was "beyond medical treatment".

He sat hunched in the dock frantically scribbling notes which he stuffed at intervals into an old plastic bag.

About forty witnesses are due to be called in relation to the genocide charges. He has already admitted the other charge of illegal possession of firearms. A verdict is not expected for at least a week.

Mr Ceausescu's brother, Valentin, and sister, Zoia, are still behind bars in Bucharest awaiting trial.

Kinnock supports Kohl on Moscow aid package

From PHILIP WEBSTER IN NEW YORK

NEIL Kinnock yesterday advocated Western aid for the Soviet Union as part of a new Marshall plan to help the rebuilding of East European economies and prevent a slump which would threaten continued reforms.

The Labour leader, speaking in New York, was aligning himself with Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, who has supported an aid package for the Soviet Union, which the Houston summit of leading industrial nations decided last week, at the urging of President Bush and Margaret Thatcher, to delay pending further studies.

Mr Kinnock accepted that aid for the Soviet Union should be judicious and cautious, with conditions attached. But, he added, "it should not be so slight or slow as to be ineffectual".

Mr Kinnock, who sees Mr Bush and other members of the administration in Washington today, said that Eastern

Europe must be given the same kind of help as that provided for Western Europe more than 40 years ago. It was the biggest reconstruction challenge of history, he said.

After the war, Western Europe had been given, not loaned, resources with which to "kick-start the engine of economic growth". He said that "comparable" resources were required for Eastern Europe now and, "similarly but separately when the necessary conditions are achieved", for the Soviet Union. Aid for Moscow is expected to figure in today's talks.

Mr Kinnock used an address to the Council on Foreign Relations here to underline Labour's claim to be the pro-European party in Britain. With Conservative divisions reopened by Nicholas Ridley's resignation, Mr Kinnock gave his strongest endorsement yet to British membership of the European exchange rate

mechanism, taking a side-swipe at the "woe-laden warnings" of those who highlighted the difficulties of currency discipline.

He said the exchange rate mechanism would be the means of ensuring that the European Community did not become a haven for speculators with the creation of the single market free of controls on the movement of capital.

Mr Kinnock also spoke of the creation of one Europe from East and West, a Europe without barriers and walls. The prospect delighted but it contained dangers. "There are rising expectations that will be difficult to fulfil, there are tensions and animosities that have been stifled by police states but are now unlocked, and there is migration that, as people gravitate to promised lands, will strain resources and tolerance." He said that progress would be secured with stability by democracy and the mixed economy.

Delhi feud may herald a comeback by Gandhi

From Christopher Thomas in Delhi

INDIA'S prime minister and his fractious deputy were locked in a power struggle yesterday amid growing expectations of a winter general election that would almost certainly restore the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty to power.

V. P. Singh, the prime minister, appealed for an end to factional fights as his Janata Dal (People's Party) threatened to fall apart. He said he could not run the government with such a depleted team after the resignation of four more ministers. In all, 13 have resigned since the power struggle erupted last week.

The struggle to keep the party together is being dogged by the emergence of bitter personal recriminations and score-settling, bringing echoes of the collapse of the Janata government in 1979. The party's political affairs com-

mittee met late into the night to resolve internal differences, but party officials held out little prospect of a long-term solution.

Attempts were being made to find a face-saving way for Om Prakash Chautala, the unpopular son of Devi Lal, the deputy prime minister, to step down as chief minister of the northern state of Haryana. His surprise reappointment to that post last week precipitated the spate of resignations. Yesterday his allies insisted that he would not quit.

The fissures spread as Inder Gujral, the external affairs minister, and three junior ministers handed in their resignations. Mr Gujral's departure means that three members of the 17-member cabinet have now resigned in protest at Mr Singh's handling of a situation which, inexplicably, he did nothing to head off when it first surfaced amid rumours of Mr Chautala's imminent appointment.

The prime minister's personal standing has been tarnished, given that he came to power seven months ago with a reputation for plain dealing, integrity and political principle. It is now widely perceived that he tried to buy political peace by striking a backroom deal to restore Mr Chautala to the chief ministership of Haryana, two months after he had been driven from office because of widespread violence and vote-rigging in state elections.

Mr Lal, the ambitious deputy prime minister, has been a political embarrassment to Mr Singh from the day of his appointment. While Mr Singh struggled to maintain his pledge to pursue "value-based politics", Mr Lal has continued to indulge in the political excesses for which he is renowned. In Haryana, his power base, friends and family have moved increasingly into positions of influence. And, in Delhi, he nursed a faction within Janata Dal that has constantly threatened to undermine Mr Singh.

A realignment of political allegiances is under way. The prime minister obviously continues to dominate the party but a breakaway by Mr Lal and perhaps six MPs cannot be ruled out. Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister and leader of the Congress (I) party, previously sounded out Mr Lal about the possibility of an alliance. The parliamentary arithmetic means, however, that Congress would not be able to defeat the government even if Mr Lal withdrew his support.

The right-wing Bharatiya Janata party is considering its next move as the popularity of Mr Singh and his party plummeted. Aside from the current demeaning spectacle, the government has lost popular support because of substantial price increases in basic goods. Bharatiya Janata insists that it will not withdraw its vital parliamentary support from the government, but the strains are clearly evident.

Mr Singh's old nemesis, Chandra Shekhar, a Janata political in-fighter of many decades, has taken sides with Mr Lal. He is still nursing a grudge over his failure to be selected as prime minister after November's inconclusive general election, which left Congress as the biggest party but short of an overall majority.

The government has been without clear leadership at a time of critical developments in Kashmir, where there is still a danger of war with Pakistan. Important talks between India and Pakistan are to be held tomorrow and Thursday in Islamabad, but the resignation of India's external affairs minister has left a void that may have dashed hopes of significant progress.

He welcomed the UN attempt to end the war but accused Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, of trying to reach a settlement with Prince Sihanouk which would exclude the Khmer Rouge. One of the biggest problems is how to share out power between Hun Sen and the three groups in the guerrilla coalition.

Mr Wijeeratne said the Tigers had killed 60 Muslims on Friday after ambushing three lorries and two buses in eastern Batticaloa. Some were returning after a pilgrimage to Mecca. The other Muslims were being held for ransom.

Colombo opens new offensive

From Reuters in Colombo

SRI LANKAN security forces have launched a fresh offensive in the north against Tamil guerrillas fighting for an independent state, a minister said yesterday.

Ranjan Wijeratne, the deputy defence minister, said the new drive began at the weekend after security forces virtually completed operations against rebels in the east of the country. He said Major-General Denzil Kobekaduwa, a senior military officer with experience in battles against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, had been appointed overall commander of the offensive in the north.

General Kobekaduwa was put in charge of anti-guerrilla operations in the east soon after the Tigers, who are fighting to form a separate state for the Tamil minority, began their latest wave of strikes against military bases and police stations on June 11.

Mr Wijeeratne said the focus of the fresh offensive was in the Vavuniya, Kilinochchi and Mannar districts, where the Tamil Tigers have been attacking army camps with rocket-propelled grenades, mortar bombs and small-arms fire. Military sources said the troops would be supported by artillery and given cover by aircraft and helicopters.

General Cyril Ranatunga, the defence ministry secretary, said 244 soldiers and 289 policemen had been killed in the five-week-old war. He also said 391 of the 680 policemen captured by the Tigers when they overran 30 police stations in the first wave of attacks were still missing and presumed dead. Unofficial estimates put the death toll among the Tigers at about 500, bringing the total deaths, including civilians, to about 1,100.

The new drive was launched hours after the Tigers overran an army camp guarding a state television relay station in Kokavil in the north. Mr Wijeeratne said 48 of the 30 soldiers in the unit were killed in the four-day battle for Kokavil. A government statement said 37 Tigers were also killed.

In a statement issued from their London office, the Tigers said 46 soldiers and 18 Tigers, including six women, were killed in the battle.

Mr Wijeeratne said the Tigers had killed 60 Muslims on Friday after ambushing three lorries and two buses in eastern Batticaloa. Some were returning after a pilgrimage to Mecca. The other Muslims were being held for ransom.

'Irate of Xicheng' keeps China's bureaucrats in touch

From Catherine Sampson in Peking

IN AN office tucked away in a lush, sleepy garden, Peking's municipal bureaucrats tackle the business of what they understand as democracy by answering letters from "Irate of Xicheng District", or "Worried of Chongwenmen". For thousands of years of feudal history, the Chinese have sought justice by petitioning their overlords and even the emperor.

Today, in the absence of direct elections, their letters are still the only voice ordinary people have with which to speak to the leaders.

The mansions and gardens which are now the municipal offices were once the Japanese embassy. The former glory is a little faded, but Chen Xiong, the mayor of Peking, finds the sweeping wooden staircase, wood-paneled rooms and high ceilings adequate as his office. Some 31,460 letters from the citizens of

Peking have arrived at these offices so far this year, and they are sorted by a staff of 54 using computers. Mr Chen asks for just one each day to be brought to him, saying that this way he can keep up to date with the concerns of the masses.

Qin Zhengan, who is in charge of the mayor's letter office, says this is socialist democracy in practice. He says the fact that people write letters to officials means they have confidence in them. When the mayor of Shanghai was asked recently in Hong Kong how he could claim to represent the people of Shanghai, he replied that he read a lot of letters from his constituents and therefore understood their concerns.

Others might say government by letters is democracy "Jim'll-Fix-It" style. Write a letter and hope a benevolent mayor will end your problems and make your dreams come true. Recently, newspapers have been printing a series of

gloving reports of the response of leaders to their letters. Mr Chen, for instance, has put a zebra crossing on a dangerous road outside a junior school and Li Peng, the prime minister, has sorted out some problems a peasant was having getting hold of seedlings.

Not all those, of course, who write seeking to have wrongs redressed are so lucky. "They have ignored me or fobbed me off," says one man who has written repeatedly to leaders.

When talking about his mayor, Mr Qin adopts the kind of reverence which is usually reserved for the North Korean school of personality cult. Mr Qin says that Mr Chen attaches priority to the business of answering letters, demanding that even the critical ones be shown to him. Mr Qin, however, cannot think of any letters which have been fiercely critical.

Proudly, and smiling happily, Mr Qin talks about the letters which

arrived after the massacre of peaceful demonstrators in central Peking last summer by government troops. "Oh yes, we had lots of letters after June 4," he says. "Nearly all of them said they welcomed the measures adopted by the government, only one or two were critical, and they were from abroad." Only three or four people wrote claiming compensation for deaths or injuries, Mr Qin claims. "and they too all said they understood the measures the government had taken".

About 70 people a day visit the letter office to bring their complaints in person. "Visiting this office should be like walking into your own home," Mr Qin said. In response to a request to see the reception room, he said: "Well, you didn't request it officially, but everything is open here".

Down a corridor and through glass doors Mr Qin points out a worried-looking man sitting in a

waiting room. Down another corridor, about ten officials sit looking bored. Each waits idly behind a desk in small individual rooms. They are supposed to interview petitioners, but there are none to be seen.

In the south of the town, there is a different group of petitioners. These are people who have travelled for days from the provinces on cramped and dirty trains to petition the Supreme Court to right the wrongs they believe have been perpetrated against them. Most are poor, and many sleep in the open for weeks while they wait for their cases to be dealt with.

They painstakingly write out their petitions by hand, creating case histories the size of small novels. They tell stories of lawlessness and violence, of rape and murder and corruption on an almost medieval scale. Most are ignored for months until their cash, and eventually their faith in their officials, run out.



Dying art: veteran carver Lee Lam putting the final touches to an intricate ivory ornament worth nearly £400

Hong Kong shuts ivory loophole

From Jonathan Braude in Hong Kong

THE Hong Kong government will today close a loophole in its ivory trading laws that some conservationists believe has encouraged the slaughter of elephants.

The government will rush through a change in the law that allows visitors to export up to five kilograms (11lb) of ivory as personal effects without a licence, according to a local television report.

The change is expected to be announced officially this afternoon, just as the world-wide ban on trade in ivory, ordered by Cites, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, comes into effect in Hong Kong.

When the trade was outlawed last January, Hong Kong was given six months' grace to dispose of the world's largest stockpile of ivory, then estimated at 670 tonnes. The

government then revised the figure down by 200 tonnes, claiming to widespread scepticism that the original figure had been an accidental overestimate.

Since the start of the grace period, which runs out today, less than 10 tonnes have been sold and just 34 export licences granted. Traders say a few more pounds of knick-knacks exported by tourists would hardly make a dent in the remaining stockpile but might at least reduce some of their massive losses.

In recent months even Japan, once one of the world's biggest markets for ivory, has taken only small quantities. Local experts say the price of raw ivory has collapsed throughout Africa.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) this week called on the British govern-

ment to pressure Hong Kong into ending the five kilogramme export rule. In an appeal to Margaret Thatcher, the WWF said there was a "very high risk of continued illegal trade under cover of the five kilo exemption."

"If there is a market for ivory, the poachers will slaughter elephants," said Alan Thornton, spokesman for the Environmental Investigation Agency recently.

Despite the slump in the market, there have been a number of seizures of ivory smuggled into and out of Hong Kong in the past year. The imports have included not only raw and carved ivory, but also a package of mammoth tusks, brought in the hope of circumventing the export ban on elephant ivory.

Japanese customs officials have seized a number of ivory

cargoes believed to have come from the territory.

Hong Kong's ivory merchants and their carvers believe it is they, not the elephant, that are the endangered species. All over Hong Kong, ivory showrooms have been closing over the past few months. Few of the territory's 3,000 skilled carvers are still working. Many are elderly and most are either unemployed or have taken unskilled, low-paid work to feed their families.

Dominic Ng, manager of one of the territory's largest ivory factories and spokesman for the Hong Kong ivory traders, said: "Before tourists would look at the ivory in our shops, but not now. Before they took us as artists and said what a nice elegant business. Now they say we are murderers."

US parties vie to shift blame in loans scandal

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

THE Savings and Loan scandal threatens to unsettle large numbers of US senators and congressmen in November's elections, posing an immediate political danger for President Bush. The biggest financial disaster in US history, simmering in the background for many months, has suddenly become the most explosive political issue of the year.

The spiralling cost of bailing out the S & L industry was an important factor in Mr Bush's abandonment last month of the "no new taxes" campaign pledge which helped to carry him to the White House. The scandal is now commanding wide coverage in newspapers and on television. There are daily revelations claiming further misdeeds by some of those who bought into the S & L industry when deregulation paved the way for an orgy of highly speculative ventures in the early and mid-1980s. S & Ls are roughly the American equivalent of building societies.

An angry American public has finally woken up to the true scale of a scandal which, according to the General Accounting Office, will cost the taxpayer up to \$500 billion (£278 billion) over 30 years. That is \$2,000 for every man, woman and child.

With elections drawing near, Republicans and Democrats have abandoned all previous restraint and mounted all-out attacks in a desperate attempt to pin the blame on the other side. In truth, the Reagan White House and the Democrat-controlled Congress were both culpable.

Then, from an otherwise faceless cast who ran the worst S & Ls, emerged Neil Bush, the president's son and former director of the Silverado S & L of Denver, Colorado, an organisation whose collapse alone will cost the taxpayer \$1 billion (£555 million).

Federal regulators have disclosed that Mr Bush, a 30-year-old with no previous banking experience when he joined Silverado's board, voted to lend \$100 million to two of his business associates without declaring an interest. Those loans turned sour and cost the taxpayer \$45 million when Silverado folded. One

of those associates also made Mr Bush a \$100,000 loan that he did not need to repay, an arrangement which even he has conceded was an "incredibly sweet deal". There is circumstantial evidence that the last Reagan administration delayed Silverado's closure until after the 1988 presidential campaign.

The federal body in charge of rescuing the S & L industry is now considering a \$200 million civil suit against Mr Bush and the other Silverado directors, which would allege negligence and gross conflict of interest.

The Neil Bush case brings a vast and abstract scandal down to human proportions which the voter can understand, and it carries the scandal to the very door of the White House where an emotional President Bush declared full confidence in the "honour and integrity" of his son. Neil Bush, fresh-faced and open, but the sort of "yuppie" who went out of fashion with the 1980s, has done little to help himself.

He has expressed no regret. Insisting he has done nothing wrong, he rejected White House advice and declined a federal offer last December to end the case against him by eschewing any future job in banking. In recent days he has mounted a one-man public relations exercise, giving numerous interviews and depicting himself as a family man trying to make an honest living: a victim of political persecution. He has succeeded only in bringing still further attention to the case.

Pat Schroeder, the Colorado congresswoman, last week persuaded a majority of Democrats on the House judiciary committee to call on Richard Thornburgh, the attorney general, to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate. On Sunday Mr Thornburgh, a Republican, insisted there was no evidence of Neil Bush having been involved in criminal activity. Now the Republicans are responding to Democrat attacks by naming a number of leading Democrats who received large campaign donations from the more infamous S & L kingpins during the 1980s.

Threat by guerrillas to step up war

From Reuters in Paris

THE five permanent members of the UN Security Council began a fifth round of Cambodia peace talks yesterday, amid Khmer Rouge threats to intensify fighting.

Senior officials from the United States, France, Britain, China and the Soviet Union will try to find a diplomatic solution to a decade of guerrilla war in Cambodia during two days of meetings. But the attempt to find a UN-sponsored settlement is hitting political snags, and sapping much of the optimism with which the five launched the quest for a settlement.

In an interview with the French daily, *Le Figaro*, Khieu Samphan, a Khmer Rouge leader, said the guerrilla group was only 25 miles from Phnom Penh, and was ready to step up fighting in order to force a peace settlement on its own terms. "It is possible that we will liberate one or two provincial towns to force the hand of the other side in negotiations," he said.

He welcomed the UN attempt to end the war but accused Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, of trying to reach a settlement with Prince Sihanouk which would exclude the Khmer Rouge. One of the biggest problems is how to share out power between Hun Sen and the three groups in the guerrilla coalition.

Chamorro walks a tightrope

From A Correspondent in Managua

THE violence which has ravaged Nicaragua's capital and the crippling agreement required to settle a strike by pro-Sandinista workers has exposed the fragility of President Chamorro's new democratic administration.

Because of the powerful army made up of opposition Sandinistas whose co-operation is vital to prevent further civil strife, and the extreme conservatives of her own party, Señora Chamorro's three-month-old government appears trapped between left

and right. Señora Chamorro has announced that she would permit dialogue with the pro-Sandinista National Workers' Front, which resulted in an agreement both sides claimed as victory.

But, she warned, pacts or power sharing remained out. "I am not going to deliver to anyone the sovereignty which the people gave me by way of their popular vote," she insisted.

Yet observers here say the lesson of the strike last week must be how carefully Señora

Chamorro will have to tread as she tries to move her country into a free-market economy after ten years of a mixed Sandinista system, which included heavy doses of socialism.

For Sandinistas, and especially for the poor, who benefited from their state subsidies for education and basic foods such as milk and beans, Señora Chamorro is moving too fast in curbing support. For elements of the business sector, who want to see the "basket-case" econ-

omy take off, she is not moving fast enough. And for both rich and poor disgusted with the way the Sandinistas can still shut down the city at will, President Chamorro's pride in her "method ... of tolerance, patience and dialogue" simply looks like weakness.

What has become apparent is how deeply work places and neighbourhoods are polarized, how the city has become a virtual arsenal of weapons, and how quickly that combination can now turn protests into violence.

René Vivas, the commander of the national police, gave an account of captured weapons: dozens of assault rifles, pistols, grenades and even a high-powered Dragovov sniper rifle of the type US-backed Contras used to shoot down helicopters. Possessing such firearms was declared illegal last week but only a relative handful have been recovered.

At a Roman Catholic ceremony where police delivered dozens of those they had disarmed, men who identified themselves as belonging to UNO, the government coalition of political parties, said they would take up guns again if they felt the government were threatened, because they do not trust the police. "We know the police consider themselves Sandinistas," said Luis García, aged 29, a motor mechanic.

Virgilio Godoy, the vice-president, and other ultra-conservative political leaders estranged from Señora Chamorro, announced a call to the public to fight Sandinista "disorder" by forming paramilitary civic brigades of national salvation in urban areas and country villages. Señora Chamorro has dissociated the government from such brigades.

If she can keep war from breaking out among extremists, Señora Chamorro may find the sharpest pressure of all will come from ordinary, unarmed Nicaraguans who worried for her because they wanted a change from years of war and a rotten economy.

Raul Estrada, aged 17, a taxi-driver who is newly married, is slowly turning against President Chamorro because he insists his future is bleak. He will not believe that things may change for the better after what international economists call a period of "structural adjustment". "The money isn't worth anything now," he complains.

Woman held after school knife attack

Wellington — The New Zealand government yesterday ordered an inquiry into the release into the community of psychiatric patients after a woman with a history of mental illness was charged with attempting to murder four schoolboys at an Auckland Jewish school (Richard Long writes).

Police recovered a blood-stained knife after a woman attacked the boys entering the school, screaming anti-Semitic remarks. Pauline Janet Williamson, aged 52, was later charged. The boys, all aged around eight, were said last night to be in a "serious but stable" condition. Police said Miss Williamson had spent some years in a hospital and was receiving treatment as an out-patient until she refused to have any further treatment on May 15.

Mass slaughter of sheep urged

Sydney — With international wool prices down and disease increasing, sheep farmers in Australia are predicting that up to 10 per cent of Australia's estimated 170 million sheep may have to be slaughtered. One agricultural firm has said that there is a pressing need to slaughter 20 million sheep (A Correspondent writes).

Last week, the authorities in Bahrain refused to allow a shipment of live sheep from Victoria to enter the country. Between 5 and 8 per cent of the shipment of some 21,000 animals, they said, were suffering from scabby mouth disease. Saudi Arabia followed Bahrain's lead by also rejecting the shipment.

Mohawks keep up blockade

Ottawa — Mohawk Indians maintained their blockade of the Mercier bridge over the St Lawrence river at Montreal yesterday after negotiations to end the obstruction hit a snag (John Best writes). Indian leaders said the authorities had not reduced the police presence by the numbers previously promised.

Tensions continued to run high at the blockaded south shore entrance to the Mercier bridge. Frustrated commuters burned a Mohawk Indian in effigy in one of a series of angry demonstrations. Commuter traffic to and from Montreal has been forced to make time-consuming detours because of the blockade.

US diplomat warns that £33m Kenya aid at risk

From Christopher Walker in Nairobi

THE United States ambassador to Kenya warned yesterday that Congress could cut its annual \$60 million (£33 million) aid package unless there were speedy political reforms. He dismissed the government's claim that only "criminals and drug addicts" had been involved in the pro-democracy disturbances.

"Any time you have demonstrations and disorders, almost automatically you have hooligans," joining in, Smith Hempstone said in answer to claims by President Moi. "But, in my view, there was something more than that involved."

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Hempstone, a former American newspaper correspondent in Africa, also criticised those Western nations, including Britain, which had not matched Washington's public criticism of the Kenyan government's recent crackdown against supporters of a multi-party system.

Dismissing the barrage of personal criticism against him

by leaders of the ruling Kenya African National Union, Mr Hempstone made clear that his recent attacks on the Kenya authorities and encouragement of pluralism had the full support of the Bush administration. Mr Hempstone rejected a Kenyan government note accusing his embassy of unwarranted interference in Kenyan affairs. He said that the US had not replied formally because, had it done so, "we would have had to point out the many inaccuracies, innuendos, half-truths and downright lies in it."

Mr Hempstone emphasised the need for the authorities to charge Kenneth Matiba and Charles Rubia, the two cabinet ministers detained indefinitely without trial.

"We are calling for a more responsive, responsible, a more participatory government, however it is done. So I guess, for lack of a better word, what we are calling for is reform," he said. "It is entirely the business of Kenya, but if they do not deal with it, it is going to become, if it has not already become, the problem of Kenya."

Mr Hempstone's attitude contrasted strongly with that of the British High Commission which has eschewed public comment on the clamp-down. Some Kenyans have told British journalists that they believe Britain is in support of one-party rule.

Referring to the \$50 million economic and \$10 million US military aid given to Kenya annually, Mr Hempstone said: "I think it will be difficult to keep Congress from exercising its lawful prerogatives much longer... it depends largely what the Kenya government does. If they were to release the detainees, speedily and unhurriedly, and were to make some friendly noises to the bishops, both Catholic and Anglican, it is possible an aid cut might be averted."

Mr Hempstone was referring to urgent calls made by leading Anglican, Protestant and Roman Catholic churchmen for a national convention to discuss Kenya's political future, combined with strong criticism made by some church leaders of Kanu's recent conduct of government.

"It would be extremely gratifying if the government was to show it could manage change, because change in my view is inevitable, and I do not want to see the stability of Kenya, or the stability of President Moi for that matter, undermined," he said. "We recognise his government and we support it, and that is precisely why we would like to see the system opened up a bit. After all, you cannot say 18 Catholic bishops are hooligans and drug addicts. And the things the bishops, both Catholic and Anglican, have had to say struck me as eminently reasoned and reasonable."

Mr Hempstone, who claims that as a political appointee he is able to speak out more forthrightly than many career diplomats, refused to be critical of Britain's stance by name. But he was openly dismissive of all those Western nations which, with the exception of the Nordic states, have yet to speak out firmly on the human rights question in Kenya.

"I have had a lot of private expressions of support as well, but naturally, being a rude American, I said, 'Why the hell don't you stand up on your hind legs and say it in public?'"

Ships are seized in Liberia

From Jamie Dettmer in Buchanan

THREE foreign fishing vessels fired on and captured while sailing off the Liberian coast are being held in the port of Buchanan by rebels fighting to oust President Doe.

The ships, which are Greek, Soviet and Dutch owned, have been looted and the crews assaulted and threatened with death by marauding gangs of rebels. Several crewmen, including two of the captains, have been forced to kneel on the quayside with guns to their heads.

The 19 crew of the Greek-owned E-B Tria Adelfia were locked up for two days in a filthy shack without food and water before being allowed back on their ship to find most personal possessions and food had been stolen.

Captain Nikolaos Giangukakis, the skipper of the Greek vessel, said his ship was captured 26 days ago by a rebel-controlled Liberian coastguard boat which was armed with a heavy machinegun. "We were fishing normally and they fired on us. We have given them no problem. They have given us a very hard time."

The local rebel battalion commanders, who are increasingly acting independently from Charles Taylor, the leader of the National Patriotic Forces of Liberia, have refused to intervene to protect the crews and have followed their soldiers in plundering the ships. One rebel commander, Major Seyeh Putu, who heads the National Patriotic Forces' fifth battalion, has refused a direct order from Mr Taylor to release the ships.

The rebels confiscated the ships' radios on capture to prevent the captains from contacting their governments.

The crews of the Tria Adelfia and the Soviet registered Ilkarland are afraid their plight may worsen as Buchanan slides further into lawlessness. Last night Russian diplomats based in Ivory Coast condemned the rebels for their abuse of international law and accused them of piracy.

Israel short of homes

Jerusalem — Ariel Sharon, the Israeli housing minister, announced yesterday that Israel will begin on August 1 to house Soviet Jewish immigrants in hotels, youth hostels and army barracks to relieve a growing housing shortage (A Correspondent writes). The move, the second emergency step in a week, is aimed at "stopping the spiral of housing prices and halting young couples being forced out of apartments", the minister said.

China rocket

Peking — China has launched Long March-2, a new-generation rocket from its Xichang launch site in Sichuan. The rocket carried a simulation Chinese satellite and a small, experimental Pakistani satellite into orbit. (AFP)

Prairie shoot

Nuclea, Colorado — Hunters bagged nearly 3,000 prairie dogs in a weekend shoot and the organizers of the event said that protests from animal rights activists had done nothing but attract more business. (AP)

Road tragedy

Florence — Hundreds of Italian motorists ignored a crying six-year-old girl pleading for help to save the life of her father, who had suffered a heart attack. (Reuters)

Soprano hurt

Merida, Spain — Montserrat Caballe, the Spanish soprano, was slightly injured early yesterday when a row of seats collapsed while she was watching a ballet, sending her and others in the audience tumbling to the ground. (AP)

Human zoo

Royan, France — The latest exhibit at the zoo here, presented to a curious public at the weekend, is a member of a species known in most parts of the world: a journalist. Georges de Caunes said his aim was to represent the human species. (AFP)

Baton downed

Tokyo — Leonard Bernstein, the conductor, has cancelled several performances here because of exhaustion and is returning to the US. (AP)



Philippines panic: workers fleeing a Manila building in yesterday's earthquake on Luzon island which measured 7.7 on the Richter scale and killed dozens of people

Saddam poised to set Iraq on new course

By HAZRIM TEIMOURIAN

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein is expected to announce a new Iraqi constitution today on the 22nd anniversary of the military coup that brought his Arab Socialist Renaissance (Baath) party to power.

At the same time, the release from prison of the British nurse, Daphne Parish, is being seen by Iraqi exiles in London as a publicity prelude to the celebrations and the expected announcement on the constitution.

According to recent reports in Baghdad's state-controlled press, the new constitution will encourage the setting up of new political parties in opposition to the Baathists and will free the press and broadcasting from state control. There is even speculation that President Saddam might announce a referendum on restoring the monarchy.

In theory, Iraq already has a multi-party political system, the government being a coalition of socialist parties from the two main Arab and Kurd communities. In practice, there is no opposition to the president.

Among parties expected to be set up are a resurrection of the old social democratic Na-

tional Democratic party and the Arab nationalist Independence party.

Speculation about the monarchy stems from the president's softened tone on Iraq's former kings. Last year, he restored the statue of King Faisal I to one of the capital's squares and accompanied King Hussein of Jordan, King Faisal's nephew, on a pilgrimage to the king's tomb.

Colonel Salim Fakhri, of the Organisation for Human Rights in Iraq, said: "By freeing Mrs Parish only a few months after imprisoning her for 15 years on charges of spying, Saddam is now confessing that all along he knew the lady was innocent."

Sweden last week recalled its ambassador from Baghdad after a Swedish national of Iraqi origin was hanged there, accused of spying for Israel. Jamil al-Neany, an Iraqi dissident who had lived in Sweden for many years, had last year returned home for a brief visit to his family. Unlike the British approach in the case of Farzad Bazoft, Sweden had opted for behind-the-scenes diplomacy. But neither approach succeeded in saving the two men's lives.

Marcos throws a party for jury

From James Bone in New York

IMELDA Marcos, the former Philippines First Lady, has thrown a lavish party to thank the jurors who acquitted her of charges of plundering her homeland.

She welcomed 10 of the 12-member jury to her luxurious Manhattan townhouse on Saturday where they were treated to two roast pigs, 14 purple coconut cakes decorated with palm trees, and replicas of the Statue of Liberty.

For entertainment there was belly dancing and Mrs Marcos's rendition of *God Bless America*.

Among the 100 guests at Mrs Marcos's midtown *piet-a-terre* was her co-defendant in the trial, Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi financier who stayed briefly before departing for a delayed pilgrimage to Mecca. Llewellyn White, one of the jurors, said: "It's just a gathering of friends. It's an unusual thing for this country, but she's that type of person — very kind."

The 10 jurors said they had deliberated for several days before accepting Mrs Marcos's invitation. A few court officers also attended.



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DEDRA. THE NEW LANCIA

How to stop the leaks

Woodrow Wyatt

There has always been a war between political journalists and politicians. Most political writers are politicians' manqués. Some, like John Wiles, are politicians and political journalists at the same time. But more often, while wishing to be a significant influence on the action, they avoid taking part in it because they lack the staying power or speaking ability to get themselves elected to parliament. Many are too fastidious to devote their lives to handling constituency parties and making the compromises in and out of parliament commonly necessary to achieve and hold office in our democracy. It can be a grubby work. How much more agreeable to look down from a lofty perch on those who undertake it and lambast them for their errors.

Yet politicians and political journalists need each other. The latter to get some idea of what is really going on even if their accuracy in portraying it is faulty. The former need the journalists to put across what splendid ideas they have. There are quite a few cosy relationships between journalists and politicians, in which some of the politicians' remarks are on the record to be quoted, and others off the record to give an impression intended by the informant to enhance good feelings towards him.

No one is obliged to give an exclusive interview. When a politician does, he should make it a precondition that he vet his quoted words before publication, to ensure, on mature reflection, that some of the words used are not printed, and that some omissions are made good. A minister, in addition, should always have a press officer present who at the appropriate moment can say "I don't think the minister wants that on the record", alerting his minister that he is about to fall into a pit. If a press officer had been present during Dominic Lawson's *Spectator* interview with Nicholas Ridley, the unguarded and colourful remarks about Germany and the Germans would never have been published, coming at the end of the two-hour-long tapes when Mr Ridley wrongly thought the interview was over.

Naturally, *The Independent on Sunday* was overjoyed by its scoop in obtaining a leaked document prepared by a civil servant summarising the general tenor of a confidential seminar on Germany reunified and what those present broadly concluded our approach should be towards the powerful impact the new Germany will have on the EC. *The Independent on Sunday* will doubtless claim that its publication of the document is in the public interest, but is it? Those at the seminar, by no means all politicians and not all from this country, attended on the understanding that the proceedings were confidential. It was refreshing to learn that the govern-

ment lifts its eyes from an understandable obsession with short-term actions to consider long-term approaches with the aid of experts. Similar seminars, with unbridled expression, may in future be impossible, to the detriment of clear thinking by the government.

Had the government known that *The Independent on Sunday* had received the stolen document, it could probably have obtained an injunction to prevent its publication. Obviously the paper thought that warning the government in good time would put at risk the exploitation of this valuable circulation-building asset. I hope there will not be a long-drawn-out enquiry to find the culprit and prosecute him or her under the Official Secrets Act. Much better would be a civil action against *The Independent on Sunday* for breaching government copyright.

The courts, as in past actions, might well decide to award heavy damages related to the revenue of the newspaper on the day the copyright was breached. If not settled out of court, the process of "discovery" to which the plaintiff is entitled could put the newspaper in the awkward position of either revealing the source of the leak or justifying its silence as in the public interest—a proposition the courts might not accept.

Whatever the courts' view on this point, it is highly unlikely that the newspaper could establish that publishing a document owned by the government is not a serious breach of copyright. Other newspapers would be put on notice that publishing confidential government documents would lead to similar actions, less glamorous than a charge under the Official Secrets Act and more painful to the pocket.

To publish leaked documents describing confidential conversations with ministers or stages towards a government policy not yet finalised may be good for newspapers but it cannot be good for government, Conservative or Labour. If there were a reporter at every cabinet meeting, the discussions would become anodyne and valueless to constructive policy-making. There are many critics of the Benn, Crossman and Castle diaries with their detailed revelations. But these were not published until years after decisions arising from such confidential meetings had been made, and therefore did not affect current policy-making. If a democracy believes that the media must have instant access to all confidential discussions, it will be saddled with ministers too frightened to say what they really think to one another, to civil servants and to outside experts. Issues vital to the country will not be properly examined from all angles. The war between politicians and political journalists will continue, but the journalists must never win.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

We were just leaving Wesley Waterless when it happened. We were just leaving Wesley Waterless for the third time in an hour. But, lest a picture may have come into your mind of a man and a woman unable to get Wesley Waterless out of their system, tearing themselves away from it only to hear it calling them back, it should quickly be said that what we were in fact attempting to do was get our system out of Wesley Waterless.

The system had been carefully worked out. Last Sunday afternoon, in a little orchard in the mid-Suffolk village of Stansfield, which is six miles from Wesley Waterless as the crow flies, or 27 if the crow's wife is using the *Collins Road Atlas*. Let us, however, not rush to blame either the crow's wife or the *Collins Road Atlas*, partly because those who have tried this will know that it does not get them anywhere, but also because the Suffolk signposts have their own ideas about where anything is, and these only occasionally correspond with *Collins's* opinion.

It may, of course, be that mid-Suffolk's mid-folk belong to the Ridleyite Tendency, and creep out at night to turn their signposts round to confuse Waffenbundesbank paratroopers landing in Stansfield with a view to striking at the soft underbelly of Wesley Waterless. Indeed, the hereinabove-mentioned system had not a little to do with such thoughts: Sunday was not only a hot afternoon, it was the fiftieth anniversary of another hot afternoon, and, lying on one's back in an East Anglian orchard, you did not have to be a former secretary for trade and industry to imagine the certain welkin embroidered, once again, with vapour trails. In such a mood, and in, moreover, an open tower, what more apt a homeward system than via the unchanged Suffolk back roads which thread redly across the *Collins* pages like the veins on a drunkard's cheek?

So that is why we were here, nostalgically belting between the high hedgerows, when it happened. It, too, was belting

between the high hedgerows, but it was belting transversely, from one hedgerow to another. A susceptible crowd, your Johnny synapse, especially if its brain has been thinking about the Last Lot in the nanosecond before the thing struck, I could have sworn it was a Me109. Then it hit the offside wing and somersaulted over our heads, and I saw, after I had braked and looked back, that it was a pheasant. I got out, slowly, with that grisly admixture of chagrin and dread one cannot but feel at the hurt of a fellow creature, but it was all right, there wasn't a mark on her, the no-claims bonus was safe. The bird, however, was stone dead.

I know little of the countryside, and less of its juridical arcana. While I know that you cannot kill pheasants in July, I do not know what happens to those who do. Nor do I know if different laws obtain regarding pheasants wild and raised; did this corpse belong to a bloke who had lovingly hand-reared it so that he could lovingly plug it next October, and if so, might I not owe him something? The road was deserted, which was one answer to all such questions. I opened the boot; I put the pheasant in. After all, just to leave it there would have made its death meaningless; as links in the food chain went, it was one of the plumpers.

"I'm not pulling its stuff off," said my wife. "Or out."

"Just read the map," I said. "We don't wish to bang around Wesley Waterless, now."

"We never did," said my wife. "But that didn't stop us."

We were, however, luckier this time. We found the way to Stump Cross, which is where you halt in order to have a row about whether to take the B184 or the M11. And, after a bit, to say hang on, what's that peculiar noise in the boot?

That little I know about the countryside does not embrace the habitat of pheasants. Is Essex all right for Suffolk ones? Not that I could have done anything if it wasn't; when I opened the lid, the corpse shot by me like a clay pigeon. Who knows, maybe it will find its way back to Wesley Waterless? If, that is, it has the sense to ignore the signposts.

Helen Suzman responds to President de Klerk's vision of a better, stronger South Africa

Pretoria's revolution needs friends

As one who had a ringside seat in the South African parliament for 36 years, observing with growing dismay the creation of the grotesque jigsaw-puzzle of apartheid, I find it a source of much satisfaction and relief to witness — albeit at arm's length — the efforts of President de Klerk to dismantle it. That his reforms are very late does not invalidate the astonishing transformation now taking place in South Africa. Nothing and nobody should be allowed to inhibit the attempt to replace the existing regime with a non-racial democracy.

Some years ago, the then editor of the influential Afrikaans newspaper *Die Burger* remarked in a press interview, "We had to try apartheid to show that it would not work." That was perhaps the most cynical utterance I have ever heard, considering the disastrous consequences for millions of people of that failed experiment. On this page last week, Mr de Klerk gave details of the new South Africa that he aims to build, in partnership with other leaders, and the message that comes across loud and clear is: "We have to try democracy and show that it will work."

All the ingredients Mr de Klerk mentions are essential for this fundamental change: universal adult franchise, constitutional checks and balances against abuse of power by the majority, devolution of centralised power, replacement of a "winner takes all" electoral system by one that ensures representation of minorities in the political power structure, an independent judiciary and a bill of rights.

The recipe for the new South Africa was, ironically enough, contained in constitutional proposals advanced several years ago by the Progressive Federal Party, to which I belonged; they were then dubbed subversive by the government. But none of that matters if the man in power is determined to implement the proposals and carry out in the near future his commitment to remove the remaining foundation stones

of apartheid: the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act and the Land Acts.

Assuming that the government's recipe for a new South Africa is acceptable to the majority of South Africans, black or white, there remains yet another dimension: the necessity for immediate action to reduce the wide disparity in living standards, even before consensus on a new constitution is obtained. That Mr de Klerk has recognised the need to go some way to meet the expectations already raised is shown by his setting aside of R3 billion (€650 million) to provide housing for the estimated seven million people who now live in appalling conditions in squatter camps.

Far more remains to be done, however, for even if every discriminatory law is wiped off the statute book tomorrow, it will take many years to overcome the effects of the inferior education and denial of equal opportunity inherent in the apartheid system.

In his article, Mr de Klerk says that "economic growth is one of

the most essential elements in bringing about a new, stronger, better South Africa". Indeed no other factor is so important in achieving such a transformation peacefully.

Change has been forced on the South African government in part by international pressure, especially the refusal of international banks to roll over loans — a decision based on risk assessment rather than on moral outrage. The main impetus, however, has come from within the country. The principal factors here are the escalation of black resistance, such as strikes, stayaways and boycotts, the irresistible force of black urbanisation and the astronomical cost of trying to maintain racial segregation in a country where economic integration has proceeded apace, despite all the legal and other obstacles imposed by the apartheid regime.

A process of irreversible change is under way in South Africa. It must be assisted, not hindered. Maintenance of sanctions, disinvestment and deprivation of

investment capital will delay and inhibit reform. Almost 500,000 young blacks enter the labour market each year. If sufficient resources are not available both from inside and outside the country to ensure the provision of proper education, training and jobs to enable them to be gainfully employed, neither Mr de Klerk nor Nelson Mandela will be able to control the violence and crime that will inevitably result. Nor will they be able to contain the backlash of white militants.

The "new South Africa" could well become yet another impoverished Third World country, torn asunder by racial conflict and confrontation. But given the resources, plus the combination of goodwill and the manifold talents of all the millions of well-disposed people within the country, the "better, stronger South Africa" envisaged by Mr de Klerk could well emerge as the role model for the rest of Africa.

The author was an opposition MP in the South African parliament, 1953-89.

Wealth of ideas that lit the way for Thatcher

Alan Ryan pays a bicentenary tribute to Adam Smith, polymath pioneer of the free-market economy



politicians of the day refused to sit down until he was seated. Pitt, Addington, Grenville and Wilberforce "owning themselves all his scholars". He was indeed a great teacher. When he resigned as professor of moral philosophy at Glasgow University in the middle of the 1764 academic year he offered to refund his students their fees; they refused to accept, saying they had learned more in one term than they expected to in a year, and gave in only when he stuffed the money in their pockets.

And yet, of his inner life we know little. He was a poor correspondent; many of his letters are apologies for letters unwritten. More to the point, he was a reticent man, with no great taste for controversy. On his death, his executors did as they were bidden and burnt almost all his papers. He wanted the world to know of him just what he chose to tell, and wanted with no posthumous misunderstandings.

He had reason to be anxious. His great friend, the philosopher David Hume, who died in 1776, had asked Smith to publish after

his death his *Dialogues on Natural Religion*, an amusing demolition of all religious belief, not only Christianity. Even Hume, who combined worldliness with an agreeable recklessness, realised that the *Dialogues* could not be published during his lifetime, but was eager that they should appear, and Smith rashly undertook to see them into print.

When the time came, he would not embroil himself in the enterprise, merely contributing a reminiscence to Hume's brief autobiography. Even this provoked angry pamphlets, and Smith commented wryly that he had got into far more trouble through this one act of friendship than by trying to overturn the basis on which English commercial policy had operated for 200 years.

Cautious by nature and only reluctantly a man of the world, Smith never married. His father Adam was all his life devoted to his mother, who predeceased him by only a few years at the age of 90. Boswell disliked him because

he was a liberal in religion and because he was dull company when Dr Johnson's Club assembled for mutual entertainment. Smith liked to return to Kirkcaldy, where he was born in 1723 and where he was to die, and once there he was reluctant to travel, even to Edinburgh. When engaged as tutor to the son of the Duke of Buccleuch, he found the Grand Tour a burden, and he had none of Hume's ability to pick up friends in strange places.

Intellectually he was a citizen of the European Enlightenment. Because we celebrate *The Wealth of Nations* as a breakthrough in economics, we forget the breadth of Smith's achievements. He was both a logician and a historian; as a logician, he tried to show how different kinds of rhetoric and argument were needed for different literary purposes — "historical, poetical, didactical, and oratorical" — putting together logic and literary criticism in a way that would terrify university departments of philosophy and literature. In the last years of his life, he hoped to complete "a sort

of Philosophical History of all the different branches of Literature, of Philosophy, Poetry, and Eloquence," as well as a history of law and government.

He was an important figure in the history of moral philosophy. His *Theory of the Moral Sentiments* was — to the extent such a thing is possible — a breakthrough in the subject. It steered a delicate course between reducing morality to mere feeling, and making moral judgement an implausibly rational business. Though it relied on the thought that sympathy is a key emotion in restraining selfishness, it was robust and sensible about the limits of any such mechanism: he noted, for instance, that no man has much intuitive sense of the pains of childbirth.

Still, we are right to remember him as the author of *The Wealth of Nations*, principally because it is so astonishingly bold and innovative. When Smith began to think about the place of the free market, it was in a Europe dominated — as it was for a further century — by the elementary question of whether a country could feed all its inhabitants. Almost everyone flinched from the suggestion that freedom rather than government regulation was the key to avoiding starvation. Other writers favoured free trade in food, only to change their minds during famines.

Adam Smith did not, although he did not expect everything to be perfect under the "simple system" of free trade. He feared that prosperity would make people soft (he had seen the half-naked Highlanders of the '45 rebellion carve up the English militia), and he worried that the division of labour would reduce the manual worker to idleness by giving him nothing to think about at work.

He staked everything on growth: if the economy kept growing, the living standards of the poor would constantly improve; if it did not, penury and misery would be their lot. For us it is an ambiguous message. We see that Smith was right to think that neither charity nor forced redistribution much benefit the poor in a stagnant economy, yet fear that uncontrolled growth will wreck the environment, and lead to endless deprivation in the Third World. A non-sectarian celebration of Smith's bicentenary is in order — along with a large dose of our hero's Scots caution.

The author is Professor of Politics at Princeton University.

Yet another elusive mole

Don't hold your breath waiting for the results of the latest Whitehall mole hunt. Although few ministers and senior civil servants had access to the record of the Chequers seminar on Germany, nobody at Westminster expects the much publicised enquiry to pin down the person who leaked it.

The academics and journalists at the seminar can be discounted because they never saw the summary, written by Charles Powell, Mrs Thatcher's private secretary, and anyway could never have kept quiet for four months. Downing Street refuses to say who saw the paper, but outside the Cabinet Office they would have included Douglas Hurd and Francis Maude at the Foreign Office, Tom King and Alan Clarke, at defence, plus senior civil servants in their private offices.

Whoever was responsible clearly knew what he (or she) was doing, for the leak was carefully timed to ensure that the story broke in the German magazine *Der Spiegel* at the same time as in Britain. Downing Street says the police will be called in if the Cabinet Office uncovers sufficient information to warrant a prosecution, and Home Office sources say the mole could face a prison sentence if caught. But experience suggests that the investigation will be launched amid much fanfare only to be allowed to fizzle out quietly in the face of no hard evidence.

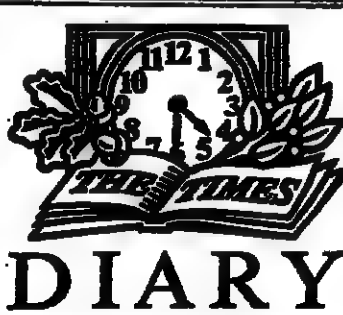
The last major leak was in

January 1989, when a draft of the white paper on the reform of the NHS found its way into the hands of Robin Cook, Labour's health spokesman. An enquiry was set up but the mole was never uncovered. In 1988, the government was shaken by five leaks. In response to the anger of Tory MPs, enquiries were launched but the results never saw the light of day. The most damaging row of the lot concerned two leaked letters about the poll tax between Mrs Thatcher's office and the then environment secretary — Nicholas Ridley.

● The Chequers meeting that discussed such alleged Teutonic attributes as angst, bullying and elitism recalls the episode of Dad's Army in which Captain Mainwaring explains to the platoon how to spot a German spy. "Notice the bull neck, the piggy nose and the ears without lobes." Arthur Lowe told the troops in what at the time we all thought was a parody.

Hobby horses

An interest in pigs, piano playing and peonies might not seem the most obvious requirements for the next Archbishop of Canterbury but they could well have been taken into account by the Crown Appointments Commission yesterday as it met to start drawing up a shortlist. Church sources have let it be known that it would pay for candidates to polish their interest in gardening following Linda Runcie's transformation of Lambeth Palace's eight-acre garden into an earthly paradise. The green-fingers test is said to favour



John Habgood, the Archbishop of York, whose wife is a noted gardener, while the wife of David Sheppard, the Bishop of Liverpool, does not care for the great outdoors.

Sheppard is also likely to lose points on the musical score front, another important consideration given the number of recitals Linda Runcie has given during her husband's term of office. Sheppard's piano, friends say, is notoriously out of tune. But on one score at least the Bishop of Liverpool emerges as not unfavourable. Every archbishop must have at least one lovable eccentricity. With Runcie it was his devotion to his prize pig, Sheppard, who formerly played for Sussex and England, has not lost his love for cricket and would be a useful captain of the Archbishop of Canterbury's eleven when it takes on the Lambeth conference in 1998. Sheppard ruefully tells the tale of once dropping a catch in a Test against Australia off the bowling of Fred Trueman. "I wish it were Sunday, reverend," said Trueman. "Why's that, Fred?" "You might have kept your ruddy hands together," was the reply.

Well, stone me

Cools to Newcastle, stones to Yorkshire. Ramblers wandering through the white rose county at the end of the month may be surprised to see three African sculptors working furiously on large blocks of stone. Those with a gimlet eye and long memory might also wonder if that could be the portly figure of Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe's vice-president. The answer is yes. The Yorkshire Sculpture Park in Wakefield is mounting an open-air exhibition of more than 100 works by Shona sculptors from Zimbabwe, with demonstrations



of the art. It will be opened by Nkomo — who, as it happens, is a member of the rival Ndebele tribe. "The artists are often inspired by spirits and supernatural forces," says a spokeswoman. "They bring out mythical and imaginary images from the stone." But why go to the trouble of transporting 30 tons of stone from southern Africa to the Yorkshire moors? Because that is the kind of stone the sculptors are accus-

tomed to and because the moors are considered a suitable setting.

More suitable, perhaps, than anyone realises, for it seems the art is not descended from African forebears at all. Experts say the Shona were introduced to stone carving in the late 1950s by Frank McEwen, the English-born founding director of what was the National Gallery of Rhodesia.

Family support

Lord Trefgarne, the trade minister, will have an additional supporter when he faces an Opposition censure motion today over his failure to ensure higher compensation for public house tenants evicted by the brewers. Shortly before the vote Sir Peter Lane, chairman of the Conservative National Union, who was given a life peerage in the Queen's birthday honours, will be sworn in and take his seat. He is Trefgarne's father-in-law, and in his first trip through the division lobby he will vote to uphold the family's honour. If the going gets rough during the debate, will he speak in Trefgarne's defence? "Not a chance," says Lane. "He's a big boy now and can stand on his own two feet. Anyway, you are not allowed to intervene in a debate until you have made a maiden speech — and I am certainly not making my debut in a censure debate."

● With the Carlton Club bombing in mind, Arts Council staff summoned security men when a suspicious bulky package arrived. Gingerly opened, it was found indeed to contain something potentially explosive: Northern Ballet Theatre's 1991 budget proposals.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

SEE THE CONQUERING HERO

Yesterday in Moscow, the West German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, accomplished the political coup of his career. He was able to announce to his countrymen, East as well as West, that the Soviet Union had conceded their right to belong to Nato; that Soviet forces would leave German territory on an agreed timetable over three or four years; and that agreement had been reached on the size and composition of a united Germany's armed forces. With this in his pocket, only the formalities of reunification and an election in December stand between Herr Kohl and the chancellorship of a united Germany.

"Everything flows and nothing stays," said Mikhail Gorbachev, quoting Heraclitus. Mr Gorbachev seems to have meant that alliances and hostilities come into being as specific interests combine or compete. Once those interests are no longer relevant, the bonds of love and hatred dissolve or are recast. That applies most obviously to the Russians and the Germans, whose tempestuous relationship once laid waste half the Continent, but whose reconciliation is now the axiom on which East Europe's stability is predicated.

The Western alliance is also in flux. Mr Gorbachev certainly had that fact in mind when he gave Herr Kohl what he was asking for. Mr Gorbachev may not only be looking beyond the German question, but also beyond the withering away of Nato, to a Europe of bilateral alliances and a resurgent Russia.

To reflect the warmth of their relationship, a new bilateral German-Soviet pact is now being drawn up to supplant the Moscow Treaty of 1972. This new treaty will be formally compatible with Bonn's present commitments to Nato, but the emerging German-Soviet entente may well become no less important to Germans in future than their longstanding alliance to America in the past. A Nato in which the United States had ceased to play an active role might no longer secure German interests against a Soviet military juggernaut that is not about to vanish.

A reinsurance treaty, to use a Bismarckian term, with the Soviet Union would ensure that Germany was prepared for all eventualities.

The Ridley affair in Britain will have strengthened the "Eastern" lobby within the Bonn government: with allies like Mrs Thatcher's Britain, the foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, might tell his colleagues, the new Germany needs no enemies in Moscow. Far better to reward Mr Gorbachev, the man who has done more than any other to bring about reunification. Poles, Britons and others may mutter darkly about Ribbentrop and Molotov. Germans will take no notice and Russians will take their money.

The price which West Germany will have to pay for Mr Gorbachev's blessing is not yet fixed, given the provisional nature of Soviet politics. It is likely to rise as time passes and the Soviet leader's domestic difficulties grow. But the Germans know their strength. They will not promise more than they can afford, and will ensure that proposed aid takes forms which promote German influence and investment throughout the Soviet empire. A few billion marks would be cheap, to restore the commanding position which German industry once enjoyed in Russia, both before 1914 and again during the late 1920s.

Mr Gorbachev yesterday said that, after reunification, only German forces could be stationed east of the present intra-German border, that is not troops from Nato allies. At face value, this limits German sovereignty. In practice, as Messrs Gorbachev and Kohl both know, a united Germany will do as it likes once the last Soviet soldier has left. By then, German public opinion will probably have forced the American, British and French to withdraw too.

Yesterday's agreement in Moscow is not a repeat of what happened at Rapallo in 1922 - Herr Kohl has not turned his back on the West. But he has given Germany's national interests due weight. To respond vigorously to the unfolding continental drama will require statesmanship. The prime minister should summon her learned scholars to Chequers for another seminar. Once she has put her chaotic German policy together again, she should make a gigantic effort to be nice to Helmut Kohl.

ENEMIES OF THE CONSUMER

Nicholas Ridley offered his prime minister a golden opportunity at the weekend to reorganise Whitehall's industrial policy along more stringent free-market lines. Not for the first time, Mrs Thatcher fluffed it. She should have pushed ministers covering energy and transport into the Department of Trade and Industry, renamed the whole lot the Department of Trade and set up a pre-privatisation holding company for their remaining businesses. She did none of this.

Before Mr Ridley arrived at the DTI, Lord Young of Graffham had made a determined and largely successful effort to eliminate the interventionist culture of the old industry department. He sold such concerns as Rover at whatever price they would fetch. He swept away most of the divisions that acted as back-seat drivers to industries not sponsored by some other department.

Predictably, however, the re-organisation left civil service numbers virtually unchanged. Those "released" neatly redeployed themselves on Lord Young's absurd "enterprise initiative" or on supervising the same industries under a different guise. Lord Young did not understand that the only way to reduce civil service numbers is personally to sack them.

Less than two months ago, the Commons trade and industry select committee, in a report on the DTI's regulatory function, made the sweeping generalisation that no department was held in lower esteem by those in a position to know. The idea that ministers and officials are in business to run large chunks of British industry or "create" new jobs and businesses dies hard, even in a government dedicated to the opposite. Regulating a free market to keep it free is comparatively boring, though Sir Bryan Cansberg, independent head

of the Office of Telecommunications, has shown how ministers charged with regulating everything from insurance to breweries and books might usefully serve the public interest.

But the real opportunity was to bring the two other "industry" departments, energy and transport (one day, perhaps even agriculture), within a free-trade orbit. Both remain locked in the old thinking, that their job is to second-guess the executive functions of boards running such industries as coal, nuclear power, rail and road-building. At energy, John Wakeham still presides over a substantial oil and gas "policy" division, even though his concern should be only with monopoly control, licensing and safety. Once electricity and coal are privatised, the department is about nothing but such regulation of trade, which properly falls to the DTI. The energy department's manpower is still planned to be higher in 1992-93 than it was in 1986-87.

Likewise at transport, where the failure to privatise railways combines with a love of building roads in cosy collaboration with the construction industry, civil servants proceed merrily to expand numbers as if there had been no election in 1979. Staff numbers are a third higher than at the DTI and, as at energy, are scheduled to be higher in 1992-93 than six years earlier. Labour's attachment to an integrated transport policy would find a department dedicated to the cause.

The prime minister considered folding the energy department into the DTI in her last major reshuffle, but lost her nerve. Perhaps she feared the interventionist tilt might have a dog that had not yet learned the free market trick. As it is, she is spawning civil servants, producer-oriented interveners and enemies of the consumer across Whitehall.

ANGLICAN HERITAGE

Ever since the dean and chapter of Hereford bungled an attempt to sell their medieval Mappa Mundi to pay for restoration work, the case has been used to prove the urgency of preventing England's ancient cathedrals falling on the heads of congregations and tourists.

The forbidding figures - £7 million for Hereford itself, £10 million for Worcester, £6.5 million for Salisbury - invite a well-meaning public to think that the only source equal to such demand is national government. Latest to join is Peter Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, who recently said that cathedrals now deserved public subsidy.

The case should be resisted, for there are more desperate priorities for any available money. Cathedrals are among the most bankable objects for appeals, capable of stirring support far beyond their congregations and dioceses. Even the less accessible cathedrals, such as Ely, have shown they can tap public generosity with a modicum of ingenuity.

Many of the figures quoted as appeal targets are over-ambitious, inflated by the inclusion of projects dear to the expansionist visions of deans and chapters. In Hereford's case, of the £7 million to be raised by selling the Mappa Mundi, only £1 million was needed for urgent repairs.

Most appeals embrace a sum to invest for the future, to augment existing endowments. Cathedrals need a steady income, to avoid periodic crises and emergencies. But often an emergency is the result of years of incompetence and neglect by deans and chapters. Some emergencies are announced merely to help boost an appeal - as controversially at St Paul's in the 1970s. A once-for-all repeat of Queen Anne's Bounty would only incline such authorities to believe that a pot of government gold always sits in wait for a loud enough ecclesiastical wail.

Much romantic nonsense is talked about

admission charges for cathedrals: that they belong to the nation and ought therefore to be free, or that they must be accessible without impediment to all worshippers at all times. Many of those who visit them are overseas tourists, who would not turn a hair at being asked to part with a pound or two. In whatever sense cathedrals belong to the British public, they certainly do not belong to visitors from abroad. Some cathedrals already charge, in some guise or another, without denying access to sincere worshippers. There is no logic in the church turning its back on such charges while claiming a share of taxes raised compulsorily.

Those who argue for government subsidy feel their position has been strengthened by the Care of Cathedrals Measure, which reached the House of Commons yesterday on its way to royal assent. This is the Church of England's response to the conservationists' complaint that alterations to cathedrals were exempt both from secular listed building control and from the church's own faculty jurisdiction, which governs alterations to parish churches. The absence of such a measure was indeed an objection to government aid. But removing an objection does not prove the case.

The basic argument against subsidy is one of priorities. The dominant call on government aid for places of worship must go first and foremost to parish churches, Britain's collection of which is an asset of worldwide significance, and one far more seriously threatened than the great cathedrals. Grants from English Heritage to churches are already sorely stretched. Compel such grants to embrace cathedrals, even if enhanced, and the latter would soon eat up every available penny. Ordinary churches - medieval, Victorian, Nonconformist, Catholic - are in greater need than cathedrals, yet less able to help themselves. Cathedrals, for the time being, will have to stand on their own foundations.

Safeguards for Broadcasting bill

From the Director of the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development and others

Sir, Most British people derive their knowledge of international issues from television. In recent years it has brought home the implications of rainforest destruction and evoked a massive humanitarian response to Africa's food crisis. But unless improvements are made to key sections of the Broadcasting Bill being debated in the Lords this week and next, the future of quality programmes on such issues is under threat.

Under the 1981 Act ITV's obligation to "inform, educate and entertain" resulted in its schedules being one-third factual and two-thirds entertainment. The new Bill does require ITV to show news and current affairs dealing with national and international matters, but the wording falls short on two counts. First, no mention is made of documentaries, which, as shown by new research we are publishing this week, play an essential role in enabling viewers to gain knowledge and insight. Secondly, apart from news bulletins, the Bill makes no attempt to ensure programme diversity during accessible viewing times.

In 1992 the BBC will be competing against a commercial system released from its public service broadcasting requirements. The resulting pressure on BBC's audience ratings will also leave BBC's documentaries vulnerable. We must ensure competition is maintained between the two popular channels - BBC and ITV - for factual as well as entertainment programming.

Most British adults choose to watch information programmes for about a third of their viewing time. They must continue to be given real choice of programmes, including those that allow them to stay well informed about the issues so crucial to the future of our planet and its peoples.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN FILOCHOWSKI,
Director, Caled,
MICHAEL TAYLOR (Director,
Christian Aid),
DAVID GEE (Director,
Friends of the Earth),
FRANK JUDG (Director, Oxfam),
NICHOLAS HINTON (Director,
Save the Children Fund),
MALCOLM HARPER (Director,
United Nations Association),
JOHN MITCHELL (Director,
World Development Movement),
GEORGE MEDLEY (Director,
World Wide Fund for Nature),
Third World and environment
broadcasting project,
2 Ferdinand Place, NW1,
July 13.

UDM membership

From Mr D. Pendergast

Sir, Your suggestion (leading article, July 5) that the Union of Democratic Mineworkers has failed to recruit is inaccurate. The past few years have been difficult ones for the mining industry generally and the National Union of Mineworkers has dwindled. In contrast the UDM has grown so that, while at its inception it represented 17 per cent of industrial workers, it now represents 27 per cent of that group in the British coalfields, with members in all areas.

Further, it must be remembered that the UDM's influence is, in fact, greater than the figures suggest. The UDM has successfully negotiated all wage settlements for industrial workers since 1985. The NUM has refused to negotiate with British Coal and so its members have received increases as a result of the UDM's efforts. Accordingly, the UDM is making progress for its members and mineworkers generally while the NUM can be said, at least, to be drifting.

Yours faithfully,
D. PENDERGAST
(Financial Secretary),
Union of Democratic
Mineworkers,
Nottingham section,
Miners' Offices,
Berry Hill Lane,
Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

De minimis

From Mr P. A. Irvine

Sir, One benefit of the new 5p coin is that it will, like the old 6d, fit through the neck of a "Dimple" bottle. Could this be part of the Treasury's strategy to encourage us to become a nation of savers?

Yours faithfully,
P. A. IRVINE,
1 Dereshey Road,
Hoylake, Wirral.

Community care

From Mr Anthony J. Byrne

Sir, On community care the Government finds itself caught between a rock and hard place. Either community care must rise or government expenditure on income support must. The increased number of over 85s make greater care demands inevitable. The Government holds the erroneous belief that substantial savings can be made in the £1 billion spent supporting people in residential care homes. But studies have shown that only 7 per cent of people in residential (not nursing) homes require the minimal level of support at home which could generate savings.

Local authorities are now confirming that people with a higher level of dependency, requiring regular attendance by qualified professionals, demand more resources in time, people and money.

Fears about Europe after Ridley

From Mr Kenneth L. Hunter

Sir, Economic history shows that in terms of productivity (output per worker) German industry has performed consistently better than British industry for at least a century. As a result the Germans have been able to keep their average costs of production below those in the UK despite paying higher wages. The main way Britain has been able to offset this and retain competitiveness in world markets has been by allowing the sterling exchange rate with the mark to fall.

If a single European currency is introduced this escape route for British industry will be closed. The historical record suggests we will not be able to improve our productivity performance to the German level. Our international trading position in relation to Germany will become increasingly weak as our costs get more and more out of line.

It may not be tactful to describe plans for a single European currency as a "German racket", but Nicholas Ridley should be more praised than vilified for warning us in advance of the perilous path into a national disaster.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH L. HUNTER,
76 Hervey Close,
Finchley, N3,
July 14.

From Mrs E. Moreton

Sir, The resignation of Nicholas Ridley demonstrates exactly what kind of country we live in today. Attack almost anything with impunity, but express criticism of the EC and the ugly face of Europeanism is soon barred. Mr Ridley may have been intemperate, but the essence of what he said represents an enormous slice of concerned opinion.

Tim Congdon (article, July 13) should not be puzzled by apparent indifference to the loss of national independence to a European super-state. The fact is that opposition is deep, widespread - and virtually ignored as the country is steam-rollered in. The 1973 referendum, held after the fait accompli of entry, and based on the premise of trade only, was a futile exercise.

I believe many people share my deep resentment of not having once been able to vote on what is, in effect, Magna Carta in reverse. There has never been a genuine test of national opinion on whether we wish to cede most of Parliament's powers to unelected people in Brussels. We have been muzzled and we watch the erosion of our freedoms with anger and deep frustration at finding so few of our elected politicians with the courage to oppose it.

Yours faithfully,
E. MORETON,
Pandy Farm,
Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan,
July 15.

From Mr D. B. Southern

Sir, To summon up the ghosts of Auschwitz against the spectre of a greater Europe is as unworthy as it is unwise. To forget nothing of what happened before 1945 and ignore what has happened since is not to learn from history, but to misunderstand the present through misreading the past.

Different Germany

From Mr A. J. Shienkman

Sir, The title of your leader ("Germany is different", July 7) sums up the nature of the European dilemma very accurately; unfortunately its substance does not present us with a clear idea of how to resolve it. The key to the problem is the fact that the present West German Government cannot bind its united German successor.

Extreme caution should be shown about the benefits to be expected from the so-called peace bonus. It is in any case largely illusory. Aircraft, tank, and munitions factories do not convert readily to other uses and, unlike the aftermath of a major war, there is no pent-up unsatisfied demand for consumer goods to be filled.

The only certainty in the situation is that the peace bonus will involve an increase in unemployment as the munitions factories wind down, and therefore an additional sum to be found in unemployment and related benefits until the discharged labour force is redeployed.

You say that Herr Kohl has shown that he can learn from his mistakes. In so far as he has made temporary adjustments to his policies to accommodate the sense of outrage felt by his neighbours, this is true, but one is entitled to

Mr Ridley describes the European Commissioners as reject politicians; applying his criterion, he would be well qualified to become one.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SOUTHERN,
63 Hove Park Road,
Hove, East Sussex,
July 13.

From Mr Michael Rothwell

Sir, Mr Ridley's enforced resignation raises the question: whatever do people think a Cabinet is for? It is to consist entirely of like-minded politicians who discuss things in a like-minded way, it has no function; indeed it need never meet. It would certainly bring accusations that the Prime Minister had stocked it entirely with, in Mr Ridley's word, poodles.

And if, within the Cabinet, there is a healthy diversity of views - must they never be uttered in public? If that is to be the rule, then we shall still suspect that poodlehood reigns.

It is a sad thing when a man's career, in any sphere of life, is ended because he has honestly and loudly spoken his mind. When it happens in the high reaches of public life, we all lose.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ROTHWELL,
Friars, Guildford Road,
Mayford,
Woking, Surrey,
July 15.

From Mr P. G. Sharp

Sir, The Selsdon Group of the Conservative Party strongly endorses Nicholas Ridley's reservations concerning German dominance in Europe. We reject transferring control to European hands of Britain's economy, and consequently her body politic, which European monetary union inevitably demands. Of German currency union, Bundesbank Vice-President Dr Walther remarked on the BBC's Today programme in February that "no country which is to remain independent can merge its currency completely". Thus Britain's fate through Ema is clear to the Bundesbank.

We also consider the European Parliament and Commission unsuitable to control any British affairs, and believe the Bank of England's Governor should be dismissed for exceeding his remit by attacking Mr Ridley's remarks. Courageously opening debate on these central issues, Mr Ridley deserves praise, not retribution. Political guts and independence are worth more than a fistful of Deutschmarks.

Yours faithfully,
P. G. SHARP,
The Selsdon Group,
2 Apex Court, Selva Lane,
Mill Hill, NW7,
July 14.

From Mr J. T. R. Silverman

Sir, How ironic that when the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry returns to London after criticising the Germans he should leave the airport in a BMW. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
JONATHAN T. R. SILVERMAN,
New City House, EC2,
July 14.

retain a proper sense of caution about the sincerity and the duration of these adjustments.

In the light of the events of the past nine months and of the German reactions to them it is possible to envisage the re-emergence of a situation similar to that of August 1914, where the British, French and Russians will be compelled to join to contain an expansionist Germany in conventional military terms. Chernobyl having ensured that nuclear arms have become virtually unusable in a European context.

As far as the Army is concerned, let us ensure that our regular forces are maintained at a proper strength, and let us ensure also that any regiments which are surplus to immediate requirements are maintained on a cadre basis, so that they can be reformed rapidly if needed.

We live in times which are more interesting but also more dangerous than any since 1945, and the quality of our grandchildren's lives will be dependent upon the breadth of our strategic vision today. It is good to see that our Prime Minister, at any rate, has a good strategic grip in a world full of national leaders who are, at best, tacticians.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. J. SHIENKMAN,
54 St Quintin Avenue, W10,
July 9.

Death lists

From Dr David Green

Sir, John Spiers asks (July 12) for better information comparing the performance of surgeons. This is not so outrageous as it sounds. The American Medicare authorities already publish the death rates of US hospitals, revealing some alarming differences in the risk to patients from undergoing surgery. Should not the Government's concern to introduce "performance indicators" extend to publishing information about the comparative efficiency of NHS surgeons?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
118 Owlsmoor Road,
Owlsmoor,
Camberley, Surrey.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.

Consequences of ending farm aid

From Professor G. H. Peters

Sir, President Bush's Houston summit attempt this week to promote accord on agricultural subsidies suggests that vital United States farming interests are at stake. In this he is following a consistent American line. The potential gains appear obvious: less protection would open markets, and American farmers, with immense natural and technological advantages, might be expected to respond with alacrity to re-awakening opportunity.

It is surprising, therefore, that little attention has been paid to work which provides an opposing view. Recent analysis by OECD (*Economic Studies*, winter 1989-90) in simulating effects of complete elimination of 1986-87 support levels in the OECD area, compared with the existing situation, concludes that American farm production would have been 7 per cent lower, with a less than compensating 4.2 per cent rise in prices. Agricultural imports into the protected American market could have fallen by 1.7 per cent, with exports falling 5.7 per cent.

European and Japanese producers would have been hit severely: the clear gain being to Australia, New Zealand and non-OECD food exporters.

Even more surprisingly the United States Department of Agriculture has weighed in with similar evidence (*Economic Research Service*, report 620). In a study based on 1986 the reduction in US output was projected at only 1 per cent, though farmers dependent on all of the commodities currently benefiting from major support (wheat, coarse grains, dairy products) would be forced to reduce output by larger amounts. Income losses could reach \$16 billion compared with base year; factor returns of \$76 billion. Massive treasury savings of \$30 billion would be seriously depleted by compensation payments.

In general the removal of agricultural support could bring considerable gains to the world's consumers, taxpayers and some agricultural exporters. An agreement on farming would also facilitate other aspects of current negotiations and reinforce GATT. Yet many farmers would be grievously affected and they could include Americans. United States politicians, faced with this situation, could well abandon what many Europeans already see as posturing.

Much of the damage is mutual and the interests of negotiation are not served by the pretence that an agriculturally virtuous US is confronted by intransigent Europeans and Japanese agricultural fundamentalists.

Yours sincerely,
G. H. PETERS
(Research Professor, Agricultural Economics Unit),
University of Oxford,
Queen Elizabeth House,
21 St Giles, Oxford,
July 13.

Arts and disabled

From Miss Emma Nicholson, MP for Devon West and Torridge (Conservative)

Sir, Mrs Pamela Barlow's appalling experiences in trying to get her wheelchair into the Courtauld Gallery at Somerset House (July 10) are, I regret, all too familiar to disabled people in this country seeking access to arts facilities. That is why with the support of the Carnegie UK Trust and a grant from the Arts Minister the charity Adapt has been formed to campaign to get these facilities improved. It is an indictment of us all that there is not a single theatre in London's West End that makes more than a cursory gesture to the disabled and the lack of interest by major cinema chains is breathtaking.

But that does not mean we have to let the Inland Revenue continue to hog almost all the car parking at Somerset House so that vehicles cannot get near enough to set down wheelchairs. It seems to me that the Revenue staff are enjoying a central London tax-free perk and I am seeking advice on a series of questions about their tax liability on these benefits.

Yours,
EMMA NICHOLSON,
House of Commons.

Language issue

From Mr Neil Tomkinson

Sir, I refer to the report, "Translator plea 'not practical'" (July 11, early editions), together with the relevant Law Report. Both these items displayed the confusion that has arisen between the words "translator" and "interpreter" (due, as so often, to American abuse).

An interpreter deals with the spoken language and interprets; a translator deals with the written language and translates.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL TOMKINSON,
43 Broadfields,
Chorley, Lancashire.

Small celebration

From Ms Alison Ross

Sir, Pursuing Lady Thorpe's chauvinism theme (July 13), your list of birth anniversaries on July 12 (which started with Julius Caesar) contained only one Briton.

Yours etc.,
ALISON ROSS,
Vincent House,
Pembroke Square, W2,
July 13.

Walking back to snappiness

**Nicola Murphy
examines the roots
of the Chelsea boot,
now back on
fashionable feet**

The King's Road is echoing to hip sounds again. The beat of the Beatles is hitting the dance floors and the streets. This is the distinctive sound of the Sixties — the sound of the Chelsea boot stomp.

The first celebrity to wear the boot was, perhaps surprisingly, not a pop star but a member of the royal family. And it was not Princess Margaret, but Queen Victoria.

"A Mr S Sparkes presented the Queen with a pair of elastic-sided ankle boots in 1837," says June Swann, the former keeper of the boot and shoe collection at the Northampton Shoe Museum, and now a consultant on the history of footwear. "At first they were not a great success." Apparently the elastic did not grip and they fell off. A decade later, stronger elastic was introduced and with it comfortable, well-fitting Chelsea boots for both men and women. (Not even Miss Swann knows where "Chelsea" came from, but it is recorded in the late 1860s.) The knee-length wellington became a relic of the Napoleonic wars and the variously named Albert, Gemina and Congress became fashionable throughout the world.

When Queen Victoria departed, the boots went out of style. By the late Fifties, though, the Chelsea boot was back. In 1961, Harrods advertised them as the perfect complement to tapered trousers. The chic shoe designer Johnny Moke was already wearing them. "Nothing was as elegant, as comfortable," he says. "And then Anello and Davide added a higher heel and the Beate boot was born."

Today, Anello and Davide have sold out of Beate boots, which cost £85, and their flat, £65

Chelsea boots are selling as fast as they did in the fab Sixties. Could this be the cult the fashion editors and style pundits never threw away? There could be other reasons for the return of the popularity of the Chelsea boot. As part, for example, of the trend for wearing outdoor and sports clothing indoors. For buying Range Rovers for the nanny to collect the children from school in Kensington and mountain bikes to ride almost as far as the delicatessens in Sloane Street.

After all, in 1990 very few of the fashion victims who squeeze into Lycra shorts are actually going to mount a bicycle. Just as few are going to jog further than the full-length mirror in their training shoes. Now the hordes who snapped up green Huskies and green Barbour have discovered that jodhpur boots (a Chelsea boot in its original incarnation, and virtually identical) are more fetching and less smelly than green wellies. "When fashionable people buy riding boots, they do everything in them but ride a horse," says Tim Johnson, manager of the exclusive, 240-year-old Piccadilly store, Swaine, Adeney, Briggs and Sons. "Later, they rather regret their choice of footwear. Jodhpur boots have very heavy leather soles. They are designed to be put in the slurrup. They are not designed for everyday wear."

So aren't these boots made for walking? According to Rudolf Schnieder, supplier of 73 countries and the Ministry of Defence, Swaine and Adeney are not talking here about Schnieder boots. "They are very comfortable and very popular for the City gent as well as for the equestrian," he says. "The customer is king. They are very versatile boots and I am not at all surprised that they are back in fashion." Only that morning, two pairs of very pale yellow Chelsea boots had gone to the United States. You don't buy those to muck out the stables.

"You can wear them with skirts and trousers, leggings and hot pants," says Beverley Cable, a spokeswoman for Shelly's Shoes, in Oxford Street. "We have them in suede and in leather, with slanted Western heels, high heels and no heels." Their new Chelsea boots with the Cuban heel, have, apparently, been very popular — and relatively cheap. Victorian boots cost between 3s/9d and 13s/6d. A hundred years on, mass-produced, they cost £24 to £45. Hand-made boots from Johnny Moke are £115, from Rudolf Schnieder they are £165, or they can be made to measure for approximately £300.

But to at least one group, the opinions of style gurus are irrelevant. Whether they are Trooping the Colour, or attending ambassadorial events, the officers of the Crown invariably sport Chelsea boots. "Diplomats' uniforms are still much the same as those of the last century," says Colin MacNaughton, from Savile Row, who has been in the trade for more than 60 years. "They will probably be still wearing Chelsea boots in another 100."



Chelsea boot boys: Anello and Davide added a higher heel to the boot for the Beatles; the shoe designer Johnny Moke (right) wore it in the Sixties and is selling it in the Nineties

Fare ground attractions

**The vandal-proof bus shelter is long overdue.
Now lots of them are arriving together...**

THE days of the scruffy urban bus shelter, scarred by vandalism and graffiti, are numbered. Various new designs, using much higher quality and more easily maintained materials, are doing the rounds of local authorities, which do not provide bus shelters but merely lease the sites.

Many of these designs come from a new contender in the British market — J.C. Decaux, a French company which dominates the manufacture, installation and maintenance of street furniture in much of Europe.

Street Equipment, Decaux's British subsidiary, has commissioned prototypes from design companies Fitch RS, Norman Foster Associates and PSD Associates. It has also installed its first

batch of 35 shelters, in an existing design called the Murano, in the London borough of Kingston.

Richard Gibbons, Street Equipment's furniture sales manager, says: "The Murano is unobtrusive, and is particularly suited to conservation areas." It is made almost entirely of glass (etched to

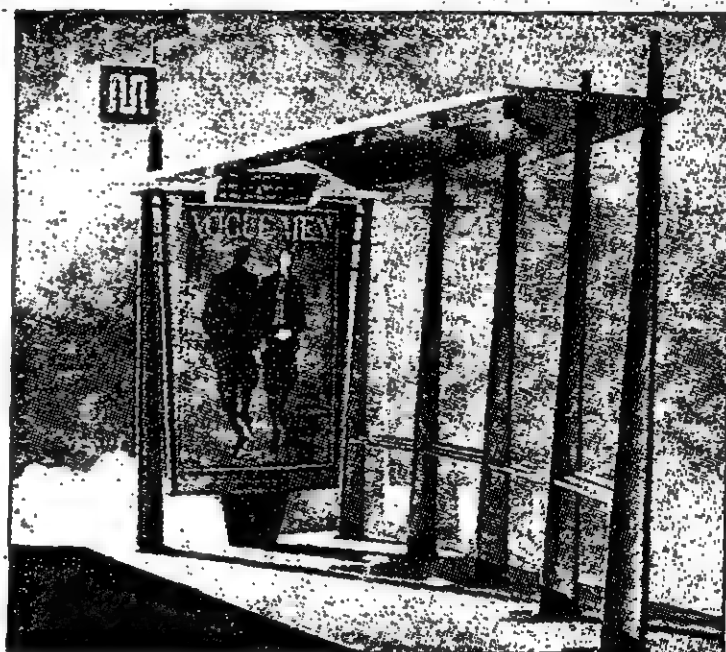
stop the partially sighted walking into it) with distinctive branching roof supports. At about £6,000, it costs double the previous designs.

Until Decaux arrived, More O'Ferrall Adshel enjoyed a virtual bus shelter monopoly in Britain, with a 20-year-old design. It, too, now has a new version, by

Kenneth Grange of Pentagram. According to Mr Grange, vandalism was the highest design consideration; his brief was for a shelter which would be "more robust, and easier to maintain. Adshel realised that to beat vandals they would have to repair, replace and clean the shelters themselves."

Adshel says that since vandalism breeds vandalism, regular maintenance should eventually see the vandals elsewhere. This concern is apparently based on growing public environmental awareness, and a corresponding realisation by town councils that good-looking streets win votes.

Others feel that Decaux's entry into the market may have had something to do with it. The French company has built its success on precisely this approach: in Kingston, employees inspect and clean shelters daily, and in Amsterdam, where graffiti was a worse problem than in London, a fleet of Decaux cleaners on motorbikes is credited with having greatly improved the city.



Worth the wait? One of the new shelter designs, from PSD Associates

designs; Fitch has designed various options for different spaces, from a perch to a full bench. The bench is divided by small armrests to deter vandals from lying down — Bill Sermon, an associate director of Fitch, says: "There is, sadly, an equation which allows us to work out how much space a person needs to curl up."

The new designs should attract more advertisers, thus covering the higher cost, although advertising panels must not be allowed to obstruct the view of the oncoming bus. And the shelters should harmonise with, rather than dominate, their surroundings. "I don't think it is appropriate to make a major design statement," Mr Grange says, "given all the clamour for attention in the street from retailers."

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Faces that ring a bell

**The great days of
British clockmaking
are recalled by
a new competition**

WHICH is the most famous clock in the world? To most people, the answer is Big Ben. To the horologist, the answer is Harrison's No. 4 timekeeper, presently at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, created in 1754 by John Harrison as the means of discovering the longitude of a ship at sea.

What these two have in common is that they are British. This country was at the leading edge of clockmaking for 300 years, a global domination that the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers intended to recall by launching a competition "to create



Time dome: 'Pyramid' skeleton clock by John Pace, circa 1850

a timekeeper with perpetual calendar mechanism" (one which calculates days of the week, months and years, taking into account the different lengths of the months, and leap years). The prize is £2,000.

Viscount Middleton, a horologist and the curator of the Gresham Parkington collection of clocks and watches in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, is one of the entrants. He wants to design a grandfather clock (or longcase clock, as horologists call them). His mechanism, for which all the parts will be made from scratch, will be based on one established in the mid-19th century by a horologist called Brocot.

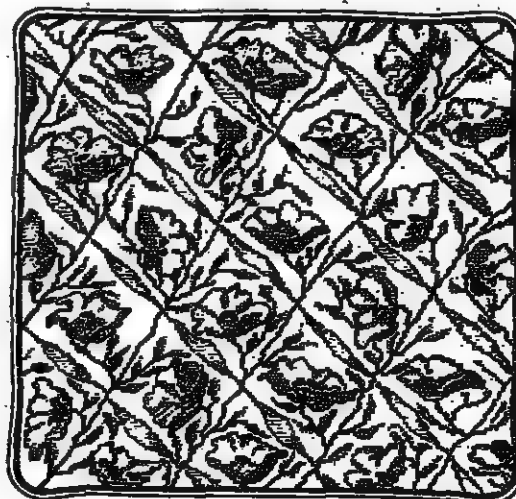
Most of the clocks in the Gresham Parkington collection are, indeed, items of exceptional beauty. Often it is the complex logic of the works, or movements, that is most visually satisfying. This is best appreciated in the so-called skeleton clocks, such as John Pace's of 1850, where they are exposed to view protected only by a glass dome.

Lord Middleton's timekeeper may follow similar lines: he has been looking to the Lloyd's building in the City for inspiration, and is considering suspending the weights outside the body of the clock, perhaps in glass tubes.

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ARTS

مكتبات الجاهل

RADIO

Amateur hours

NOMENCLATURE is one of the means by which the broadcasting media signal their awareness of their audience, who are increasingly supposed to consist of grinning t-shirt-wearers in the great theme park of life. Just as British Rail unilaterally decrees that its passengers are in fact "customers", so BBC Bristol has decided that its listeners are "punters". "You, the punter" now have the chance to contribute to the airwaves in a new series of *Punters* (Radio 4, Sunday), a form of access broadcasting which touts the illusion of participation while simultaneously saving money for the Corporation.

Not surprisingly, when amateurs are handed a microphone, they proceed to ape the techniques of the professional: the collusive laugh, the teed-up intervention; the dovetailed switch of point of view. Last Sunday an elderly psychiatrist seized the opportunity to deliver a lifetime's grouches on the dilatory habits of wedding photographers, whom he charged with distorting the flow of the ceremony. In the world history of accusation this was hardly Zola class, and the resulting report lacked a certain bite.

Next to the microphone came a photographer of unspecified professional habits who keeps his razor blades sharp by placing them beneath a cardboard pyramid. He also sleeps beneath a rather larger pyramid, but has so far noticed little effect on his life. He pursued his own half-joshing investigation of the allegedly energizing properties of pyramids, and in the process deflected the listener's expectations into uneasy collusion.

Who was the battier, the amateur reporter blithely making a fool of himself or the German pyramid salesman encountered at a trade fair? "Oh yes," enthused the latter, "I wear one on my head when I'm driving."

On the same waveband, *Reading Aloud* had Richard Pasco impersonating Edward Whymper, who one day in August 1865 strolled out of Zermatt and climbed the Matterhorn as though it were an extraordinarily large piece of cake. Four of his fellow climbers perished during the descent, but the peril of old rope are as nothing beside the deadening effects of old prose.

The mountaineer's account of his pioneering ascent is a prize example of cautious endeavour, every substantive safely roped to its prescribed qualifier, every peak majestic, every ravine sublime. Lips were never stifled, but then that may have had something to do with the cold.

MARTIN CHOPPER

ARCHITECTURE

Monumental affirmation of faith

Brutal modernism, boring classicism or irreverent pastiche: The arguments about contemporary architecture show no sign of dying down. Marcus Binney reports from Washington D.C. on examples of "sensible" architecture, related to and reflecting its city context

Warren Cox is quite open about it. "Some of our latest stuff is really belligerent Beaux-Arts Revival." We were embarking on a tour of the firm's current projects in Washington D.C., where Cox and his partner George Hartman are creating classical buildings at a pace and on a scale unseen since 1939.

Cox stresses that they are not literal classicists such as Quinlan Terry or Alan Greenberg — who recently completed a sumptuous set of Palladian reception rooms for the State Department. "We are contextualists. Some of our work is quasi-Victorian. Some quite modern. We tend also to get jobs involving existing buildings."

Much of this, he continues, "has to do with Washington. We like it here. There are so many fine buildings. It is like the best parts of London. In such situations you must go lightly. The idea of violently asserting oneself is anathema. The city and the street are more important than your building. Once you think this way the job must work out differently."

Yet Cox's philosophy has been savaged by critics. "Of course the proponents of sham-beam architecture claim our buildings are boring," he retorts. "But people are noticing what we're doing." And Cox himself is not averse to throwing some of the mud back. He picks up a copy of the *London Architectural Review*. "This magazine is a time capsule. Look at all

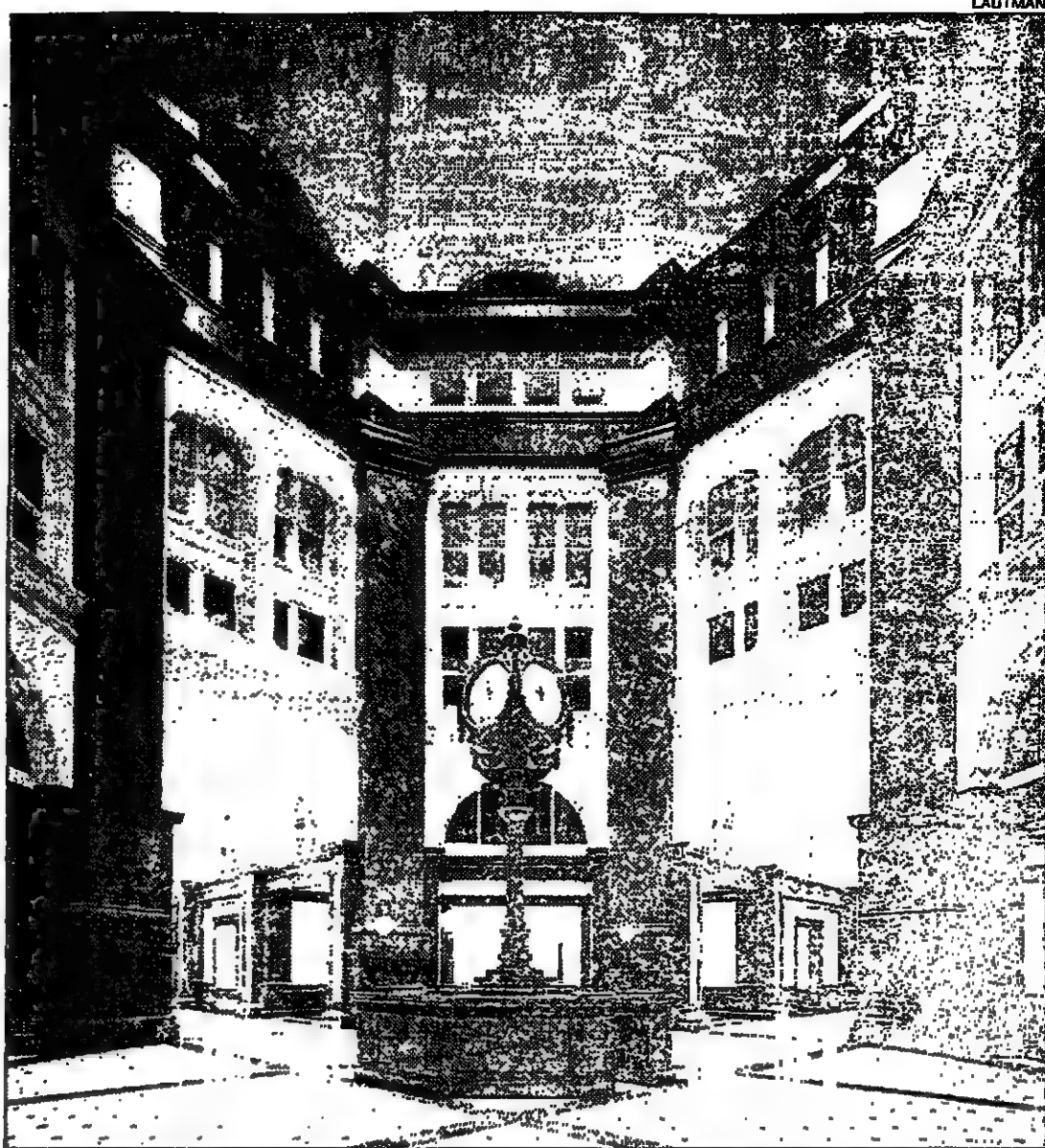
this Fifties modernism. Are they joking? You can't even tell the year of the damn magazine from looking at it. We say these guys are sprocketing — pulling their wagons in a circle."

Even in the United States, Cox admits, the hardline modernists are regrouping — aiming to re-establish the International style as the only gospel for our time. "But they're aiming at a moving target. With one or two exceptions, no one is proposing a return to classical architecture. We call it sensible architecture."

His most conspicuous new buildings stand prominently at Market Square, opposite the Archives building. This is classicism almost on the scale of Boffin in Paris. Here Cox picks up the game of the "Classical Orders" played with such enthusiasm by architects in London until 1939. The challenge is to adapt the classical language to a building of six, eight or even ten storeys using only a single giant order of columns or pilasters. Cox manages no fewer than 13 storeys. Three are in the rusticated base and five are behind the giant Doric columns, constructed of drums of solid Indiana limestone. The next floor is concealed in the frieze, with windows opening between the triglyphs. Then come four attic storeys, including a penthouse set back so it is barely visible from the street.

Nearby is another newly completed office block, at 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Inside, long barrel corridors recall Sir Edwin Cooper's old Lloyds building and converge in a great octagonal baptistry, an echo of the Tate Gallery entrance in London. Everywhere the walls are clad in rich green marble, with vaults and domes reflected in highly polished marble floors. "These developers are really into marble. But with these modern veneers it works out really cheap, and low on maintenance. All that you have to do is wax and shine it."

Cox's tour de force is his newly completed Law Library for Georgetown University on G Street and Massachusetts Avenue. This is in a stripped-down art deco classical manner: no Order as such but plenty of elegant channelling and fluting. What looks like stone from a distance, he quickly points out, is actually concrete, "artificial stone mix if you prefer", provid-



1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C.: An octagonal baptistry, an echo of the Tate Gallery in London, with marble walls and floors, designed by the architects Hartman-Cox

ing remarkable evenness of texture and crispness of detail.

The building is studiously asymmetrical, in response to the site, with a rotunda emphasising the entrance. "You'll recognise this," Cox says, as we push through the swing doors into the rotunda. Here is a sensational reinterpretation of Schinkel, the great German neo-classical architect. Everything is chaste grey and pearl white, with three tiers of columns carrying a flat, deeply coffered dome. The spatial excitement is heightened by the flying staircases which encircle the central space and the shafts of light beyond. For all its elaboration this is classicism on a budget. "It worked out at \$130 (£72) a square foot." (In central London you are pressed to build at £130 a square foot.)

Cox is especially proud of his additions to the Folger-Shakespeare Library, behind the Capitol. The new reading rooms have great barrel vaults echoing Etienne Louis Boullée, the visionary architect of pre-Revolutionary France. But though the language is classical, the technique is self-evidently modern, with "vaults" and "domes" suspended in space to allow continuous top lighting along the sides.

Cox defines his style as catholic eclecticism. But behind the feely acknowledged borrowings lie long periods of study, looking at Palladian country houses in England. The next project is Sumner Square, on the 1600 block of M Street NW. This was a deal by which a developer restored a Victorian school in return for permission to build offices on the

rest of the site, thus providing the governors with a new source of rental income.

Cox retained and refurbished the school, but a substantial part of the new office space is contained in a large dark mirror glass block behind. "That's the only curtain glass walling with quotes that you'll see," he quips. The Miesian grid has been wittily classed with corners treated like blocked stone and a cornice finishing off the top.

His success lies in his ability to adapt the classical language to the scale of contemporary building — and to mass production techniques. While some architects might worry about the minutiae of mouldings, Cox is concerned with overall effects. He has brought the Monumental back to Washington architecture with a bang.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: RECITALS

Enterprise and initiative rewarded

INNOVATION is often enough to attract attention, whatever the quality of playing or music. The Feinstein Quartet — consisting of flute, double bass, piano and percussion — certainly have many novel ideas up their collective sleeve, two of which were revealed in their Purcell Room recital. It may have been a slightly offish gesture to play Edward Shipley's modern jazz suite, *Cabaret*, with

sleepy half-pints of beer conspicuously to hand, but the piece was an effective enough exercise in its genre. Any spirit of improvisation present, however, was severely diluted by its often expressionistic flavour.

What came afterwards was far more arresting. Erika Fox's "puppet music drama" *The Bet* does not explore an entirely new form — this year's Munich Biennale included

many examples — but it eagerly exploits all the advantages that puppet theatre has over conventional theatre. The story can be simple, the characters few and (because of the element of visual caricature essential to puppetry) readily identifiable. Moreover, it does not matter if the more complex emotions and the deeper implications of the plot are consciously realised by the audience or not.

If Fox's score has a fault, it is that it reflects perhaps too languidly the rituals of rep-

etition contained in Elaine Feinstein's hypnotically folk-like, moralistic yarn. But the music, here sensitively played, is approachable and subtle as well as spacious. Leonard Fenton read, and sometimes intoned, the words with simple and direct emotion, while Peter Alday and Peter Toll of the Norwich Puppet Theatre manipulated their wooden charges with a kind of elegant poise.

Another enterprising ensemble, London Brass, have organised a competition for composers under 30. The winner, announced last week, was Matthew King's *Recitative from the Book of Job*, though Nigel Osborne's resourceful new piece, *Canzona*, heard the same evening, served to point strongly to the fact that neither King, nor the joint runners-up, Deirdre Gribbin and Margaret O'Hagan, has yet found an individual voice or a strong message. Time will tell, but meanwhile this is an enterprise only to be encouraged.

STEPHEN PETTIT

CRITICS' CHOICE: CONCERTS AND RECITALS

TRAVELLING STRINGS: The Scottish Ensemble directed by Jonathan Rees appears at the Cheltenham Festival for the first public performance of a new orchestration by Rodney Newton of Lennox Berkeley's early Sonata. Elena Duran is the flute soloist in this and Vivid's "Il giardino" Concerto (Op 10, No 3); the strings play Elgar's *Serenade*, Tippett's *Little Music* and Warlock's *Capriccio*. Suite, Pitville Pump Room, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (0242 523690), tonight, 8pm, £4-£9.50.

MUSIC FROM IRELAND: Nicholas Kraemer conducts the Irish Chamber Orchestra in two concerts, each featuring a work by an Irish composer. In the first programme *Mirrors* by Gerard Victory is framed by Mozart's C major Piano Concerto (K 467) with Hugh Timney the soloist, and Haydn's Symphony No 30 in C. St. John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (071-222 1061), tonight, 7.30pm, £3-£10.

ROMAN VIRTUOSITY: On their way to the London Proms, the 12 players of the renowned Virtuosi di Roma stop off at Chichester with candlelit 18th-century concertos by Albinoni, Corelli, Tarini and the Vivaldi Four Seasons.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL, West Sussex (0243 780192), tonight, 8.30pm, £7.50-£15.

TIPPETT AT SOUTHWARK: Sir Michael Tippett's *A Child of our Time*, with its spirituals and drama, is the City of London Festival's choice to celebrate his 85th birthday year. Jo Ann Pickers, Cynthia Clarey, Damon Evans and Willard White are solo singers with the City of London Sinfonia and London Symphony Chorus conducted by Richard Hickox. Southwark Cathedral, by London Bridge, London SE1 (071-248 4260), tomorrow, 8pm, £8-£15.

PROMS FIRST NIGHT: Henry Wood Promenade Concerts presented by the BBC began with a memorial to Sir John Pritchard, who died last December, by his successor as Chief Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Andrew Davis. He is joined by Margaret Price and Anne-Sophie von Otter, the BBC Symphony Chorus

and the London Philharmonic Chorus in Mahler's grand "Resurrection" Symphony (No 2).

MOZART REQUIEM: A pre-concert introduction (6.30pm) by H.C. Robbins London, the eminent Mozartian, to his new performing edition of the Requiem that Mozart left unfinished, is followed by its first performance from the Harrow Band and Chorus conducted by Roy Goodman, using period-style instruments. Gundula Janowitz, Julia Bernheimer, Marilyn Hill and David Thomas are soloists. Town Hall, Cheltenham (as above), Fri, 8pm, £4-£12.50.

PATTERSON PREMIERE: An ambitious four-movement Symphony by Paul Patterson, 43-year-old Chesterfield-born composer, has its premiere at the Cheltenham Festival's closing concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, who commissioned it. Geoffrey Simon conducts. Raphael Wallfisch is the soloist in Dvořák's Cello Concerto. Town Hall, Cheltenham (as above), Sun, 8pm, £4-£14.

HANDEL PROM: Handel and Charles Jennens (the librettist for Messiah) put a famous Biblical feast into wider dramatic context for the three-part oratorio, *Belshazzar*. Trevor Pinnock directs a period-style performance by the English Concert and Choir with a team of Handelian soloists: Anthony Rolfe Johnson for the title role, plus Arleen Auger, James Bowman, Catherine Robbin, David Wilson-Johnson.

ALBERT HALL (as above), Sun, 7pm, £3.50-£15.

NOEL GOODWIN

BUXTON BASS: Willard White (Glyndebourne's Porphy and Young Vic's Othello) launches this year's Buxton Festival by close-focussing on the Leader of Brahms and Mozart as well as songs by Aaron Copland. His recital, in Frank Matcham's exquisite opera house, will be followed the next day by an interview (Sun, 11am) with Rodney Jones in the Palace Hotel.

STRATFORD LOOKS NORTH: This year's Stratford-upon-Avon Festival has a Nordic theme, and among the Icelandic opera singers, the Hedda Gablers and the Viking puppetry, the Copenhagen Piano Trio make their British debut. Their programme of Brahms, Shostakovich and Weber also includes Nielsen's "The Fog is Lifting" for flute and piano.

CELLO INTO GAMBIA: David Watkin is a cellist worth clearing the diary for: his typically enterprising programme includes Elton Carter's 1948 Sonata, and Bach's Gamba Sonata in D. St. John's (as above), Sat, 7.30pm, £5-£7.50.

FATS TO FINNISBY: The ebullient Fine Arts Brass Ensemble present the world premiere of *Obrecht*, a motet for brass by Michael Finnissy, commissioned for the Cambridge Festival. Their programme also includes Monteverdi, Rossini (William Tell Overture) and Fats Waller.

FAREWELL TO BOHEMIA: Concluding the Wigmore Hall's long-running Bohemian Festival, the Nash Ensemble play Brahms's Horn Trio in E flat and Suk's Piano Quintet in G minor. Dvořák's Moravian duets will be sung by Sarah Walker and Rosemary Hardy.

Wigmore Hall, London W1 (071-935 2141), Sat, 7.30pm, £5-£8.

ANNE BYLSMA: The Dutch virtuoso visits the Cheltenham Festival, taking up his baroque bow for Bach's Cello Suites Nos 2, 4 and 5. If his recordings are anything to go by, this should be a revelatory morning.

Pitville Pump Room (as above), Sat, 11am, £4-£7.50.

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(continued)

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TUESDAY JULY 17 1990

Wall St share prices top 3,000

THE Dow Jones industrial average topped the 3,000 level at mid-day in New York amid heavy trading.

It was boosted by a 5.2 per cent increase in net profits at IBM and figures showing a substantial increase in the federal budget deficit.

Last week's 0.25 per cent cut in the Federal Reserve Board interest rates to 8 per cent is expected to be the last for some time, but was enough to sustain last week's rally.

In London more than £4 billion was added to share values with the FT-SE 100 index closing above the 2,400 level for the first time in a month. It finished 24.3 higher at 2,406.5 on thin turnover.

Stock markets, page 24

MTN launch for Kingfisher

Kingfisher, the retail group, has confirmed the launch of a £500 million multi-currency medium-term note (MTN) programme. It is the first programme of its kind to be announced since the Bank of England sanctioned issues of one to five-year sterling MTNs in January.

Kingfisher said the programme allowed initially for issues in sterling, US dollars, yen and ecus.

Alive and kicking, page 25

Profits rise

Ford Sollis Morris Properties, the property developer and investor, increased pre-tax profits by 79 per cent to £25.4 million in the year to end April. Net assets per share rose 64 per cent to 200p, while the final dividend for the year is 4.5p, to make 7p for the year, up 40 per cent.

Tempus, page 25

Triplex higher

Triplex Lloyd, the diversified engineering group, is paying a 4.5p final dividend making 7p (5.75p) after posting pre-tax profits of £12.2 million (£7.74 million) on a turnover of £177.8 million (£134.8 million). The financial recovery sees chairman Lewis Robertson moving on after August's annual meeting.

Tempus, page 25

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8040 (-0.0047)
W German mark
2.9793 (-0.0087)
Exchange Index
93.8 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1900.9 (+20.8)
FT-SE 100
2406.5 (+24.3)
New York Dow Jones
3000.99 (+20.79)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
33021.73 (+337.36)
Closing Prices ... Page 27

Major indices and market changes

Page 24

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3 month Interbank 14 1/2-14 3/4%
3 month eligible bills 14 1/2-14 3/4%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8%
3 month Treasury Bills 7 3/8-7 5/8%
30-year bonds 103 1/2-103 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£ \$1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040
DM £1.8040

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$362.50 pm \$363.25
close \$362.50-363.00 (£200.75-
201.25)
New York:
Comex \$362.40-362.90

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug) \$17.95bbl (\$17.40)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Spain	Italy	France	Germany	UK
Australia \$	2,415	2,255	2,100	2,050	2,000
Austria Sch	2,415	2,255	2,100	2,050	2,000
Belgium Fr	2,415	2,255	2,100	2,050	2,000
Canada \$	2,415	2,255	2,100	2,050	2,000
Denmark Kr	11,811	11,111	10,411	9,711	9,011
Finland Mk	7,229	6,829	6,429	6,029	5,629
France Fr	10,528	9,728	8,928	8,128	7,328
Germany DM	3,110	2,910	2,710	2,510	2,310
Greece Dr	297.50	287.50	277.50	267.50	257.50
Hong Kong \$	1,183	1,083	983	883	783
Ireland £	14.63	13.63	12.63	11.63	10.63
Italy Lit	2,270	2,170	2,070	1,970	1,870
Japan Yen	3,473	3,273	3,073	2,873	2,673
Netherlands Gld	11.90	11.20	10.50	9.80	9.10
Norway Kr	2,270	2,170	2,070	1,970	1,870
Portugal Esc	2,270	2,170	2,070	1,970	1,870
South Africa Rd	5.8	5.2	4.6	4.0	3.4
Spain Ptas	169	159	149	139	129
Sweden Kr	11.19	10.49	9.79	9.09	8.39
Switzerland Fr	2,270	2,170	2,070	1,970	1,870
Turkey Lira	5,000	4,700	4,400	4,100	3,800
USA \$	1,804	1,704	1,604	1,504	1,404
Yugoslavia Dnr	25.0	23.0	21.0	19.0	17.0

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US deficit now forecast to reach \$169bn

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE White House yesterday increased its 1991 budget deficit forecast to \$168.8 billion.

This is the administration's fifth upward revision of the year and suggests a deficit spiralling almost out of control. The forecast in January was just \$100 billion.

The latest forecast, contained in the formal mid-session review of Richard Darman, the White House budget director, does not include the likely cost of bailing out insolvent US savings and loans institutions next year. If that is included, the administration said the deficit could reach \$231.4 billion.

This year's deficit is now estimated at \$161.3 billion, or \$218.5 billion if S&L costs are included. Under the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction legislation, the 1990 budget deficit was supposed to be \$100 billion, with the target of a balanced budget by 1993.

The administration blamed the constant upward revisions on a slowdown in economic growth which has slashed tax revenues, on higher-than-expected interest rates and federal spending, and on escalating savings and loans costs.

The latest figures sharply intensify the pressure on the budget summit between leaders of the Democrat-controlled Congress and the administration to reach a speedy agreement on a radical deficit-reduction package for the next fiscal year beginning

this autumn. Such is the scale of the looming crisis that President Bush was last month forced to renege on his electoral pledge of "no new taxes".

The Gramm-Rudman legislation sets a \$64 billion deficit target for 1991, and demands automatic across-the-board cuts in government spending if the final budget package does not come within \$10 billion of that figure.

On yesterday's forecast, the cuts would total \$104.8 billion, with half of that being lopped from social programmes and half from a Pentagon budget of about \$300 billion.

Cuts of such magnitude, apart from being politically and socially unthinkable, would also risk tipping the economy into recession. The New York Times yesterday reported that the economies of 16 of the 50 US states, containing a third of the American population, are now in, or very close to, a recession.

The budget summit will almost certainly agree to exclude the savings and loans costs from the calculations, and to amend the Gramm-Rudman legislation, raising the 1991 target and postponing the target date for a balanced budget. Yesterday's report insisted this "moving of the goal posts" would have to be part of a "specific and enforceable multi-year deficit reduction programme".

According to the White

House, there is now a near-consensus that between \$50 and \$55 billion should be lopped from the deficit this year through a combination of spending cuts and revenue increases. "A lesser amount of savings would not likely be viewed as a credible attack on the deficit problem; but a larger amount of savings could be counter-productive with respect to economic growth," said the report by the White House office of management and budget.

However, serious disagreements remain between an administration which wants to keep tax increases to a minimum and congressional Democrats who insist on increased income taxes on the richest Americans who currently pay at a lower rate (28 per cent) than most middle-class Americans (33 per cent).

The report also contained revised, and slightly less optimistic, economic assumptions for this year and next. Economic growth in 1991 is now predicted to be 2.9 per cent and 2.2 per cent, rather than the forecast 2.6 per cent, for this year. This year's consumer price inflation is now estimated to be 4.8 per cent with a prediction of 4.2 per cent in 1991. Unemployment is predicted to be 5.6 per cent in both years, and interest rates are now projected to average 7.7 per cent for 1990 and 6.8 per cent for 1991.



Candid cameras: Peter Lilley, the new trade and industry secretary, arrives at the DTI yesterday

Tomkins profit surges to £77m

By MARTIN WALLER

A BID for Delta, the electrical and engineering group, by Tomkins, Gregory Hutchings' industrial conglomerate, was abandoned after indications that funds holding Tomkins shares would not back it.

Tomkins, which is renowned for its caution, then only went ahead with its proposed \$550 million cash bid for Philips Industries of Dayton, Ohio, after consulting leading shareholders, said Mr Hutchings.

He was announcing pre-tax profits £12 million higher at £77.1 million for the year to April 28. A final 6.55p dividend raises the year's total from 6.75p to 9.25p.

Tomkins' 2 per cent stake in Delta was revealed in October. It sold out at a small loss earlier this year. The group retains a 4.7 per cent stake in Low & Bonar, the Scottish packaging and textiles firm.

The Philips purchase is agreed with the management, whose plans for a buy-out had foundered, and is going through the regulatory process in the United States. It is planned to sell three businesses in the materials handling and automotive industries, accounting for about 20 per cent of Philips' total sales, as soon as possible for a small sum.

"It's a very similar company to us. That's the attraction," said Mr Hutchings. "If we do nothing except sell a couple of bits which are loss-making, it won't be dilutive." Tomkins has not made an acquisition in Britain since 1986, and Mr Hutchings still believes businesses here are overpriced.

Tempus, page 25

Cannons sold

Ron Clarke, former long-distance running world record holder, has bought Cannons Sports Clubs from the Jack Chia Group in a £12 million management buyout.

The deal will be paid in shares in Branfield, the buyout vehicle, and £9.6 million cash. Mr Clarke, managing director of Cannons since 1983, bought Cannons City Club and Cannons Covent Garden Club.

Pittard falls on warning

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Pittard Garnar, the leather group, fell 32p to 80p, wiping almost £7 million off the stock market value of the company, after the group gave a profits warning.

Pittard, the subject of an unsuccessful bid by Strong & Fisher at the end of 1988, said it was likely to announce a pre-tax loss of between £1 million and £1.5 million for the six months to end-June, after making exceptional provisions for losses against raw material and finished leather stocks.

The price of sheepskin pelts has fallen by about 40 per cent in the past six months with the worst fall in prices coming in the past few weeks. The directors expect Pittard to trade profitably in the second half but they say the first-half loss is unlikely to be eliminated. Analysts had been expecting pre-tax profits of about £5 million this year.

John Pittard, managing director, said he had no regrets about fighting the 1990p share offer from Strong & Fisher, which itself made a pre-tax loss last year and where the share price has fallen dramatically, but he did admit the profits downturn could make the group more vulnerable. Hillsdown Holdings approached Pittard last year about the possibility of an agreed bid.

Biggest shop price fall in 11 years aids inflation fight

By RODNEY LORD, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE volume of retail sales fell sharply last month, raising hopes in the City that high interest rates are beginning to contain inflationary pressures more effectively.

Sales fell 2.8 per cent, the biggest monthly drop since a freak 9.9 per cent fall in July 1979 (caused by the first Conservative Budget) and the 3.3 per cent in January the same year.

The news helped sterling to recover from Nicholas Ridley's resignation as trade secretary. The pound closed 1.15 pence higher against the mark at DM2.9793. Against a stronger dollar, it was 47 points weaker at \$1.804, leaving the effective rate index 0.3 higher at 93.8.

Gilt-edged prices rose 1/2% and the FT-SE 100 index closed up 24.3 at 2,406.5. Money market rates, however, were unchanged with the three-month interbank rate at 14 1/2 per cent.

Other figures released by the Central Statistical Office showed a fall in industrial production of 0.4 per cent in May, but within that manufacturing output rose 0.3 per cent. The Treasury said the fall in retail sales was "welcome confirmation that consumer demand growth has continued

to weaken" while the rise in manufacturing output was consistent with strong growth of exports.

However, James Capel, the broker, gave a warning against reading too much into the figures which follow two months of sizeable increases in retail sales. Gwyn Hache said: "I think it's far too early to conclude that the consumer has been nailed to the floor."

The index of retail sales volume fell to 122.2 in June (1985=100) after seasonal adjustment.

Taking the last three months together, sales were 0.6 per cent higher than the previous three months and 1.6 per cent higher than the same period a year earlier, a slightly higher rate of growth than the 1.4 per cent for the three months to May.

June sales were depressed by poor weather and World Cup football which kept shoppers at home.

Hugh Clark, assistant director of the Retail Consortium, said: "Trading was extremely tough in some areas and the overall figure is still influenced by the strong food performance with its relatively high inflation factor."

Comment, page 25

Thames attacks MIM mailshot

THAMES Water is to make a formal complaint to Imro, the regulatory body covering the investment management industry, over a mailshot to its shareholders by MIM Britannia, the fund management group. The letter suggests shareholders exchange their shares for an investment in one of MIM's personal equity

plans (Martin Waller writes).

Thames claims the letter, apparently timed to coincide with a second instalment on its shares, due by the end of the month, is "incomplete and potentially misleading". The company says some of its shareholders mistakenly believed it was operating in conjunction with MIM and

was therefore sanctioning the offer for its shares.

There is no mention of the loss of bonuses or discounts if shareholders sell out, Thames claims, and the mailshot also mentions the possible risk of renationalisation. A spokesman for MIM said there was no justification for the complaint.

Ratners faces extra \$37m bill

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

RATNERS, the jewellery group, may have to pay up to \$37 million more to junk bond holders to secure its bid for Kay Jewelers, the American group. Ratners is already offering £234 million for the company, but while equity holders are being offered a 70 per cent premium on the price of their shares, before the bid, junk bond holders are being offered 25 per cent less than the face value of their bonds.

Kay has \$150 million of outstanding junk debt in two classes. Holders of the 12.875 per cent bonds, worth \$100 million on face value, are contemplating rejecting the Ratners terms because of a put option at par, which guarantees them the full value of their bonds if the

company is acquired, against the 75 per cent offered by Ratners.

The offer is being seen as a test case for America's junk bond market. If bondholders accept the offer from Ratners, a precedent could be set for subsequent offers that could further devalue the already bombed out junk bond market.

Advisers to Ratners point out that the offer for the company is conditional on 51 per cent of the bondholders accepting the current offer for the bonds. If they do not accept then Ratners can walk away from the bid although the British jewellery group will have to pay Kay \$10 million if its tender offer is not successful.

But the City believes Ratners will end up paying more to the bondholders. Jeremy Alun-Jones, of Salomon Brothers,

says the acquisition of Kay is strategically correct for Ratners but believes the group may have to pay 90 cents in the dollar to bondholders before the offer is accepted. This would add \$23 million to Ratners' bid and could prolong negotiations giving Ratners less time to increase Kay's sales. "In the year to January 1992, we believe Ratners earnings per share could be diluted by around 10 per cent," he says.

Ratners' advisers have argued that without the Ratners bid, Kay faces an increasingly difficult time and some believe the group could face Chapter 11 bankruptcy. But Kay's junkbond holders argue that the management renegotiated its credit lines through to January 1991 prior to the bid and is unlikely to go under before that date.

Midland to fight court action over Clowes funds

By STEPHEN LEATHER

THE Midland Bank is preparing to defend a legal case being brought by the government in a bid to recover almost £150 million in compensation paid out to victims of the Barlow Clowes collapse.

The government has so far paid out £148.8 million to thousands of small investors who lost money when Barlow Clowes, the investment management firm, was forced to cease trading by the Securities and Investments Board in 1988.

Midland has become involved because it operated accounts on behalf of Barlow Clowes which the Department of Trade and Industry now says should have been held in trust for individual investors.

Last night a spokesman for Midland Bank said: "The writ has been issued but not served. We understand it was issued on July 10 but it has not been served on us officially. It

is for an unspecified amount. Obviously we are going to defend the claim very vigorously. We don't accept what the writ says."

The writ, which was prepared by the City solicitor Clyde & Co, is 766 pages long, mainly because it contains the names of most of the 18,500 investors who lost money when the firm collapsed.

The solicitor has served another seven writs against five firms of financial advisers. In most of them the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry is acting as the first plaintiff, with Barlow Clowes investors being named as second and third plaintiffs.

There are two writs against Analysis Investment and Management Services of Mayfair, two against DC Wilson and Partners (in liquidation) of Manchester, one against NM Financial Management Group Services of Portsmouth

(formerly known as Schroder Assurance and Investments Holdings), one against Tower Fund Managers of London and one against Investment and Pensions Advisory Service (in liquidation) of London.

All the writs seek unspecified damages for negligence and breach of contract, and damages or compensation in equity for breach of trust and breach of fiduciary duty in managing or looking after the investors' investments with or through Barlow Clowes.

The writs are test cases and it is likely that more will follow.

They are the first hot potatoes to fall into the lap of Peter Lilley, who took over as trade and industry secretary yesterday.

They were authorised by his predecessor, Nicholas Ridley, before he resigned over the weekend.

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By COLIN CAMPBELL

TT has bid 85.5p a share for the company. Vishay Inter-technology of New York has bid 90p a share.

Year	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374</
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ESS ROUNDUP
build \$80m
in Hungary

High rates medicine begins to work

COMMENT

Economic policy-makers had somewhat better news in Britain yesterday and distinctly worse in the US. On this side of the Atlantic retail sales volume showed a sharp drop, suggesting that high interest rates are making themselves felt rather more acutely than has seemed the case during the past few months. For good measure manufacturing output rose in May, from which the Treasury concludes that while domestic demand is being satisfactorily screwed down exports are taking up some of the slack for industry. This is precisely the formula the government would wish.

trend may still leave a good deal to be desired a drop in sales is better news than the reverse with inflationary pressures in the economy still so strong.

Other indicators due this week and next will help to clarify the message of the retail sales figure. In particular the money supply and unemployment and earnings figures due on Thursday will give an indication of the financial pressures and the degree of tightness in the labour market.

The other important number is next Monday's trade figures. In the US the inflationary forces are coming as much from the public sector as the private. Private sector saving is low in both countries, but while the budget is still in surplus in Britain—just—the budget deficit in the US gets bigger every time you look at it. The latest estimates delivered by the administration, with the usual mid-session review, show a new leap in the projected deficit for

the current fiscal year to \$219 billion. Compared with the target of \$100 billion written into the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction law, this is a miss of spectacular proportions even by the standards of American budget arithmetic.

Startling though the figures are, their importance to policy-makers so far as the current year is concerned is limited. The figures to concentrate the mind are the projections for next year, which show a forecast of \$219 billion compared with a Gramm-Rudman target of \$64 billion. There is no way a gap of that size can be bridged by any likely combination of spending cuts or tax increases. Instead it will be tackled in time-dishonoured fashion by changing the rules. Bridging finance for the savings and loans will be taken off budget

moment to launch a \$150 million derivatives firm. But brokers at Credit Suisse Financial Products, the new operation, were unconcerned; they had already completed their first four deals on Friday before the company was officially trading.

Swaps, futures and options are essential tools in the modern corporate treasury. All but the smallest companies are exposed to a spectrum of currency, interest rate and commodity price risks and are prepared to buy insurance against them. It is only when these sophisticated instruments fall into the hands of the naive or foolhardy that they become dangerously speculative.

City shop

The day when London's banking community was showering writs on Hamersmith and Fulham councillors for non-payment on swap contracts was not an auspicious

moment to launch a \$150 million derivatives firm. But brokers at Credit Suisse Financial Products, the new operation, were unconcerned; they had already completed their first four deals on Friday before the company was officially trading.

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The global swaps market alone is now thought to be worth \$3,000 billion a year, a third the size of equity or bond volumes, and is growing faster than either of them. Futures and options too have seen an explosion in popularity in the last five years. So it is understandable why

Credit Suisse and First Boston, neither of which have been able to capitalise on the new market places, have taken the launch of CSFP so seriously. The new operation, is unlimited, so any of its losses can flow back on its parents. From this it has been given Credit Suisse's AAA rating, which it believes is vital to be able to act as principal on the most lucrative long-term swaps.

CSFP's has poached a core team of 19 from Bankers Trust to start the operations. These include Allen Wheat, the chief executive. Eventually it plans to have 140 staff, half of them professionals. The aim is nothing less than to become the largest player in the swaps and equity derivatives markets.

The City can cheer that it has been chosen as the location for the new group. Not only does Mr Wheat like living here, but he also realises that London's time zone is ideal for running a global operation. Hopefully his decision will convince others to set up shop here. The benefits to the City of playing host to such a youthful industry should not be underestimated.

TEMPUS

Tomkins steers clear of traps

GREGORY Hutchings may be allowed a modicum of smugness as he continues to aim for the mantle of Lord Hanson and Sir Owen Green, given the number of fellow go-go stocks of the 1980s that have come to a sticky end.

Natural caution continues to allow his Tomkins conglomerate to avoid the pitfalls of high debt and unsuitable diversification, although the latest and biggest corporate move, the purchase of Philips in America, has given rise to the odd fear that he may be going a deal too far.

A three-for-four rights issue is a large chunk to swallow, and Tomkins shares have been slipping in the past fortnight. They perked up again yesterday, jumping 9p to 289p in favourable market conditions as the group bettered the profit forecast made just a month ago.

Pre-tax profits of £77.1 million for the year to April 28 compare with £65.1 million last time, and Tomkins is rewarding shareholders with a 37 per cent rise in dividend.

The group, despite its wide geographical spread and in terms of the markets it addresses, is not immune to the economic slowdown here and in America, which will account for about two-thirds of earnings once Philips is in the bag. Pressure on margins meant a flat trading outturn at two of the divisions and a fall

at the third, leaving a good performance from Smith & Wesson and the first full-year contribution from Murray Ohio to save the day.

The financing arrangements for the deal virtually ensure Philips will not be earnings dilutive this year. Disregarding the effects of the acquisition, which will not be completed until the end of the summer, the shares sell on 10.5 times prospective earnings. Still good value, although the market will take a while to absorb the new shares on offer.

Ford Sellar Morris

FORD Sellar Morris has an image problem. Investors see it as a developer/trader with an eye for the main chance, whereas what interest there is in the property sector at present is focused on old-school investment companies with gilt-edged portfolios.

As a result, the group's pre-tax profits for the year to end-April, up 79 per cent to £25.4 million, were greeted with scarcely a twitch in the share price. At 106p, with an historic p/e ratio of 2.7, a yield of 8.8 per cent and a discount to net assets of 47 per cent, it could scarcely be flatter.

FSM's news, by contrast, could hardly be more bullish.

Retail developments at Stockton-on-Tees and Worcester are proceeding to plan and are pre-let. There is no exposure to the City or London Docklands, and the Mayfair office portfolio remains strong.

The company has traded down most of the debt it took on with the £84 million Brookmount acquisition last year, and gearing should be below 100 per cent by the end of the current year.

Irvine Sellar, chairman, recognises the image problem and is pressing the City to re-classify FSM as an investor and out-of-town retail sites. To underline his argument, the rent roll should rise to £10 million this year. If Mr Sellar succeeds, the shares would be substantially re-rated, but the process may take years.

Shorter term, net assets are likely to be flat this year, and profits depend on some big sales, particularly the 750,000 sq ft Stockton complex. Investors need faith.

Triplex Lloyd

TRIPLEX Lloyd, once a sick and apparently dying metal basher, has been sufficiently restored to financial health. As a result, company doctor Lewis Robertson is moving on.

Pre-tax profits of £12.2 million in the year to end-March, up from a restated £7.74 million, owe much to £4.94

million (£198,000) of property profits, but at least the group's finances are now better structured.

Shareholders' funds improved 20 per cent over the year to £39.4 million and gearing fell from 69 per cent to 31 per cent. A sixth year of dividend increases gives investors a total of 4.5p, making a final for the year of 7p, against 5.75p last time.

The Midlands group aims to expand its US activities to 12 per cent of total sales from its current level of 4 per cent. By 1993, it hopes to see overseas sales reach the 50 per cent mark.

Property profits are likely to remain a feature of its results for some time, although the focus on added value should see a more genuine improvement in the quality of earnings.

Currently, some of the markets Triplex serves — automotive and building products — are out of favour and the knock-on effect of high interest rates could make the going tough this year.

But Triplex can now at last claim world-wide giants on its customer lists and an increase in profits to £14 million this year is possible.

The prospective p/e of 6.3 on yesterday's price of 137p takes an unduly dark view of prospects. Once sentiment improves, the shares should advance.

Corporate bond market still alive and kicking



Breaking new ground: Geoffrey Mulcahy of Kingfisher

to refinance the mergers and acquisitions spending spree of the late Eighties with relatively low-cost, long-term debt. This process is incomplete and could provide a spur to considerable issue volume in the second half of this year and next year, provided market conditions allow.

However, building societies have been the most active issuers, finding the cost of wholesale funding through issues of floating rate notes attractive compared with the cost of servicing deposits.

So how have the sterling

markets been able to maintain their momentum through this year's stormier economic waters? The answer is the generally increasing confidence among overseas investors in holding sterling assets. Continental, Far Eastern and American investors have shown an interest in investing in sterling debt instruments that has grown in line with the likelihood of British entry to the exchange-rate mechanism.

But it is not just the sterling bond markets that have seen strong activity from British companies in the past six

months. British issuers raised \$12.7 billion through 72 securities issues in ten different currencies during the period. This made them the third most active users of bond markets in the world behind the Japanese and the Americans.

Acquisition refinancing has again been to the fore, with dollar fund raising providing a natural balance sheet hedge for the swathe of dollar assets scooped up by British companies in the late Eighties. The dollar funding options for finance directors have never been greater. With the liberalisation of the American private placement market in May this year, an attractive competitor to the dollar Eurobond market has been opened up, particularly for long-term funds. British Aerospace and the Rank Organisation have already launched placements in this market this year.

But the recent history of British corporate debt issues is not just a good news story. For much of last year and the first part of this year, the Hovelt bid for BAT cast a shadow over the Eurosterling sector. As Gerald Leashy, director general of the Association of Corporate Treasurers, put it: "The Hovelt bid junked BAT's bond and rubbished the rest of the market."

The result was the widening spreads and tougher covenant requirements that effectively scuppered the plans of three water companies to access the Eurobond markets in January.

Another side effect was the wave of bond buybacks by British companies in the spring that provoked claims from market-makers that certain issuers undertaking buybacks were guilty of breaches of the Financial Services Act.

The withdrawal of the Hovelt threat and what is now seen as the irreversible commitment to the ERM has eased conditions since May. And with bad debt-laden banks looking for higher spreads and tougher security conditions from their British corporate clients, the debt security markets must continue to look a good bet for finance directors.

Jonathan Prynn

Williams sees fair play

VICTOR Blank, the tall, tattooed, chief executive of Charterhouse, the merchant bank, threw open the gates of his Elizabethan manor house in Oxfordshire on Sunday, to more than 300 guests, for a second annual afternoon of celebrity and City cricket. Chosen no doubt for his impartiality — the only Labour man among a sea of Tory blue — was Lord Williams of Elvel, the umpire for the day. As Charles Williams he was a managing director of Baring Brothers and also once chief executive of Henry Ansbacher. These days Williams, aged 57, is better known as deputy opposition leader in the Lords, and the party's spokesman on trade, industry and energy. He is a man tipped for a high-ranking post in the event of a Labour victory. But his qualifications for Sunday's role are equally impressive. He once captained Oxford at cricket and played for Essex in the Fifties. "I had to bring all my diplomatic and political skills to bear," he said of the thankless task of umpiring. David Frost's celebrity team won by four runs, helped by the disappointing efforts of opposition players Alistair Grant, chairman of Argyll, and Nigel Whitaker, Kingfisher director, who failed to score between them. Martin Sorrell, of WPP Group, was run out for six, while Ocean Group's chief executive, Nicholas Barber,

managed eight. But perhaps the most lasting memory of the day, which raised more than £120,000 for the charity Birminghams, was the sight of John Jay, city editor of the Sunday Telegraph, running across the landscaped lawns wearing only a towel.

Driving force

PROFESSOR Roland Smith's lament, in this column yesterday, that companies no longer invite him to join their boards because they erroneously assume that he is too busy, has shed light on yet another of his activities. Putting his legendary contacts in the worlds of business and academia to full use, he is chairman of the advisory board of the British-American Chamber of Commerce and as such has been one of the driving forces behind a new British-American Chamber of Commerce-sponsored scholarship, unveiled at Winfield House, the American ambassadorial residence, last night. The scholarship is the brain child of Christopher Robinson, a director of Leslie & Godwin, a Lloyd's broker, and also chairman of the British-American Chamber of Commerce's executive committee in the United Kingdom. The scholarship, which will be operated in conjunction with the Fulbright Commission, will fund either a British master of business administration student to study at an American business school or vice versa. "Or hopefully one of each," says a spokesman. And, despite the economic

squeeze, Professor Smith's personal appeal letters to blue chip British companies have netted £12,000 of the £14,000 raised for the project this far.

A FLORIDA judge, hearing a divorce case, was told by the husband: "We would have got divorced years ago, but neither of us wanted custody of the kids."

Go East, go west

LORD Young's departure from the trade and industry department last summer came just after his lengthy official visit behind the Iron Curtain. Soon after his return from Moscow, Margaret Thatcher's favourite appointee to politics fell victim to her July reshuffle. Odd then that his successor, Nicholas Ridley, a man not inclined to putting in appearances abroad, should also be swanning about for a whole week in Prague and Budapest as his bombshell interview in the Spectator exploded on the seemingly unsuspecting government. Even odder still that Ridley appeared to have little idea before departing for Eastern Europe of what he was actually going there for. He had made it clear that, as far as he was concerned, companies, not governments, were responsible for trade. Nor did he see much prospect of real business out there. Maybe, it was a second front against German hegemony he had in mind. But future incumbents at 1, Victoria Street, might be well advised not to go East too

readily... or they could find that their ministerial posts go west.

Perfect timing

NICHOLAS Ridley's sudden departure may have done little to improve tempers at Downing Street, but it has been rather more favourably received in literary circles. For John Mole, the author, with remarkably fortunate timing, has published *Mind Your Manners*, a guide to European etiquette, that may well now become a casebook for politicians and businessmen alike. And with Anglo-German relations much in the news, it reveals that British punctuality leaves a lot to be desired. In Germany, for instance, it is important to turn up for meetings bang on time. The British tend to roll in 15 minutes late, while Italians think nothing of arriving an hour after the arranged time. Danes and Germans, thus consider the British to be inefficient and unpunctual, while the British feel the same way about the Italians and Greeks. Meanwhile, newcomers to Germany are advised that locals take business very seriously indeed, and perhaps none more so than female staff, who once a year cut off the ties worn by male colleagues in symbolic revenge for the discrimination they suffer. Sounds just like the old floor of the stock exchange....

Carol Leonard

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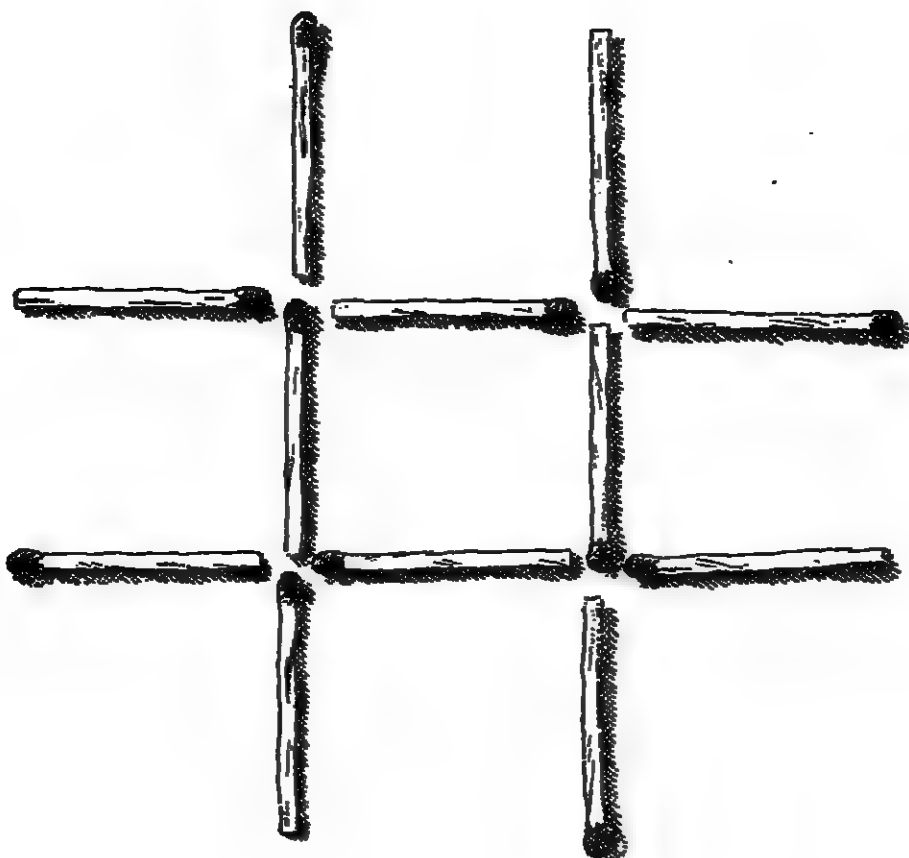
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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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How
many moves
to the
key name
in tax?



If you feel that you belong in a professional team of creative thinkers and problem solvers, then there is only one move you can make. (The puzzle, however, takes three.)

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This is a key appointment requiring three years' experience in a City firm dealing with a mixture of listed and unlisted company work. The successful candidate must have a sound technical knowledge in these areas of work and possess the ability to apply this knowledge in meeting the needs of commercial clients.

CORPORATE LAWYER – EDINBURGH

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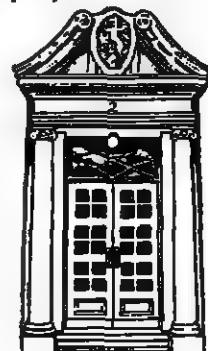
You should be able to teach advanced contract law and have research interests in the common law. Opportunities exist to contribute to new courses in medicine, law and ethics and women and the law.

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مکمل

THE LAW

The case of unheard evidence

The Maguire case has emphasised flaws in appeal hearings.

Sir Frederick Lawton calls for changes

In the opinion of Sir John May and the Home Secretary, David Waddington, the convictions of the Maguires were unsafe and unsatisfactory. On July 30, 1977, after a hearing lasting several days, the Court of Appeal had decided they were safe and satisfactory. The court was a strong one, consisting of Lord Justice Roskill, Mr Justice Waller, soon to become a Lord Justice, Mr Justice Ackner, now Lord Ackner, and Lord Justice Roskill.

The judgment ended as follows: "No member of this court sees any reason for disturbing any of these convictions either on the basis that any of them is unsafe or unsatisfactory or that the learned judge was guilty of any non-direction or misdirection or that his summing-up in any way was unbalanced."

Differences of opinion of this kind cause concern about the adequacy of the appeal system in criminal cases tried on indictment. There is not the same concern about appeals from magistrates' courts to a crown court, because these appeals are by way of re-hearing, whereas those to the Court of Appeal are not. Therein lies the inherent weakness in that court's jurisdiction.

The Maguire case was dealt with on a perusal of the transcript of



Awaiting a decision: the Maguires' conviction, which went to appeal, is now regarded as unsatisfactory

evidence. The Guildford bombing case jury heard police officers giving evidence about the alleged oral confessions. The Court of Appeal did not, and, save in exceptional circumstances, never does.

The consequence of this is that the Court of Appeal feels obliged to accept the findings of fact implicit in the jury's verdict, unless there is what the late Lord Widgery called a lurking doubt. It is difficult for the court to have such a doubt if it has not heard the evidence. The Court of Appeal would be more effective, and public confidence in it strengthened, if it were empowered by parliament to re-hear parts of the evidence and to initiate enquiries about any aspect of a case that caused it unease.

It would be impracticable for the Court of Appeal to re-hear every case and probably unnecessary

because in nearly all cases the disputed evidence is limited in ambit. It has no power to do so at present. Its criminal division is a statutory court. It can do only what the Criminal Appeal Act 1969 says it can do.

Before 1907 there could be an appeal in a criminal case only on a point of law. Adolf Beck's case made parliament appreciate that there would have to be enlarged rights of appeal.

The debates in parliament leading up to the passing of the Criminal Appeal Act 1907 show there was a reluctance to allow challenges to the factual bases of juries' verdicts. The consequence was that the 1907 Act concerned itself mainly with whether there was evidence to support a conviction. This made appealing difficult because there almost always was such evidence.

The aggrieved appellant's contention tended to be that his evidence, rather than that of the police, ought to have been accepted.

The 1968 Act was intended to overcome this limitation by providing that an appeal should be allowed if the verdict was unsafe or unsatisfactory.

The change in jurisdiction has made little difference because cases have to be decided by perusing the transcript of evidence. The court, not having heard the evidence, has to proceed on the assumption that the jury's verdict reflects its findings on issues of credibility.

This makes it difficult for the court to interfere in cases in which a guilty verdict can be explained only on the basis that the jury accepted the prosecution case that the ac-

cused had made an oral confession. It might be different if the court could order a re-hearing of the disputed evidence. It has at present no general power to do so. In the last of the Home Secretary's references in the Luton Post Office case, the court, without objection from counsel, decided to do just this. But it is doubtful whether it had jurisdiction to do so. A general power to order re-hearings would also be useful in cases in which there was disputed scientific evidence. The court has to do the best it can from perusing the transcript. Sometimes the task is almost impossible.

At present the court has to deal with a case on the basis of the evidence and submissions put before it. It has no power to initiate its own enquiries, and even if it wanted to do so it would have no means of making them.

In some cases, for example, the court has doubt about the quality of the scientific evidence or the adequacy of defending counsel's cross-examination on it. This deficiency could be overcome by having a senior police officer attached to the court and empowered to recruit a team to make enquiries. This would be an adaptation of the French institution of *police judiciaire*.

Finding an accident-proof jurisdiction for the Court of Appeal will not be easy. The Donovan Committee in the early 1960s tried to do so and thought it had. Events have shown that giving the court power to quash convictions if they are thought to be unsafe or unsatisfactory is not enough to prevent miscarriages of justice.

The author is a former Lord Justice of Appeal and was a member of the Donovan Committee.

INNS AND OUTS

If you are intending to go to the International Bar Association conference in Kenya in September, perhaps you should hold on to your deposit. The IBA decides this week whether to go ahead with the conference in the light of Kenya's growing unrest. The final nail in the coffin may be the US State Department's recommendation to American citizens to stay away. Having rescued the conference last month after Kenya's attorney-general announced its cancellation, the IBA will probably cancel it after all and organise it in a more neutral location. Perhaps by calling the conference in Kenya, the IBA risked appearing to endorse an increasingly unpopular regime.

On the same note, the state of Cuba's justice system recently moved the Czech president, Vaclav Havel, to send a protest letter to the Cuban leader, Fidel Castro. He wrote: "I was sorry to hear that the court in Havana gave long custodial sentences yesterday to seven representatives of the opposition. Their only crime was that they demanded that Cuba be launched on the path towards pluralism, democracy and a market economy; that is, on the path which is followed today by all former totalitarian countries in central and eastern Europe. Mr President, I firmly protest against the decision of Cuban justice, which I see as another step of your country towards the darkest past, as a gross violation of basic human rights, and as an insult to the civilised world. I, therefore, request that you ask for an immediate release of all unjustly condemned." Perhaps the IBA should invite Mr Havel, with his personal experience as the victim of a system of laws manipulated to suit a powerful regime's ends, to talk at its annual conference, wherever it is finally held.

The UK accountancy firm, Chantrey Vellacott, auditor of the Law Society, the Legal Aid Fund, the College of Law and two Inns of Court, has joined DFK International, one of the largest accountancy organisations. DFK International follows the pattern of some of the international law firm associations that have recently sprung up. Every member firm is independent, but all pool resources and knowledge where necessary. In any event, Chantrey Vellacott's legal practices group will be well placed to advise its law firm clients about the advantages and pitfalls of such associations.

American law firms waiting for the go-ahead to merge with British law firms may be in for a shock. In an interview in July's *International Financial Law Review*, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, reveals that he does not rule out the imposition of a reciprocity requirement on non-European Community countries whose lawyers seek multinational partnerships with British lawyers. He strongly favours the concept of multinational partnerships: "If our profession is going to keep in the front of legal developments in the world at large, they must be prepared to have links with people who practise in other jurisdictions." However, he is not advocating a wholly free market. Although the Law Society has publicly accepted that a reciprocity requirement would be hard to justify before the competition authorities, Lord Mackay says: "You can see the force of (the reciprocity) argument. I hope that possibly the US will follow our good example." Did that mean he had no objection to imposing such a requirement? He replied: "I do not think I would put it quite like that. It may be right for us to give a lead in freedom, and hope that it would encourage people on the other side of the Atlantic to do the same."

Well appointed office space is available in the City's new developments but Allen & Overy has apparently abandoned plans to move from Cheapside. The site's landlords, the Bank of England, are to refurbish the whole site of which Allen & Overy's offices now occupy part, but given that office space is not quite as marketable as it could be at the moment, the firm has managed to do a deal with the Bank for the whole building at bargain rates.

SCRIVENER

European legal judgments affecting Britain are becoming as controversial as the Community's economic supremacy

AS the Ridley affair has shown, the supremacy of European over British institutions remains an emotive issue in the UK. A parallel development lies in the implications of the Social Charter, where the latest European judgments strike at the heart of fundamental party political issues and add further complications to the nationalist and sovereignty dimensions. The first draft directives on part-time and temporary employment, issued last month, did little to defuse the situation. These are intended to enshrine the philosophy of the Social Charter in European law, but the furor over the procedural aspects of the introduction of these measures has, in some cases, distracted attention from their content.

The impetus for the Social Charter is said to come from the belief, among most European Community members, that the social harmonisation of Europe was failing to keep up with economic harmonisation measures introduced in 1987 after the Single European Act.

It would be comforting to think that this concern is consistent with the emergence of green politics and the philosophy of the "caring Nineties". However, the motive more likely to be found among Community leaders, and one based on hard commercial reality, is the fear

that inconsistent employment regulations across Europe could result in unfair price competition after 1992.

Accordingly, the debate centres on "How far do we go?" and "How do we achieve the minimum necessary to meet our political ambitions and economic needs?"

Two scenarios are envisaged here. Either there will be a huge threat to the burgeoning part-time work-force in the UK if minimum wages are set, or countries such as Spain, Greece and Portugal will be deluged with approaches from the multinationals to accept the siting of their manufac-

turing plants because of lower labour costs — an example of the "social dumping" theory.

This second fear is not borne out by reality. For many Japanese and American employers, the cost of labour is only one aspect of investment in Europe. Technical skills, the location of markets, raw materials and distribution networks can be just as important. At the beginning of this month, for example, a survey was published confirming exactly this analysis. It was no surprise to learn that low wages are often matched by low productivity.

Margaret Thatcher's ap-

proach to the charter has won her the support of those Britons who are still suspicious of anything coming out of the European Commission. Although in the end the inevitable compromise will be found, she will have retained her consistency, her integrity and her patriotic spirit. Her European counterparts, however, play the same game, but according to their own rules.

Having berated Mrs Thatcher for standing alone against the charter in principle, we now see these leaders finding difficulties with a number of the proposals as their detail

emerges in the form of draft directives.

It is tempting to think that the difference in behaviour is merely an example of "adversarial politics" and that in the end the vast majority of Community members will seek the same result, if only because they have the same concerns. Wisely, none of the leaders is making a political issue of the health and safety aspects of the charter.

Eventually we shall probably wonder what all the fuss was about. On the other hand, if the day ever dawns when this type of debate does not take place, individual sovereignty within the Community will have disappeared.

ROGER STEELE
The author is a solicitor with Freere Cholmeleys.

Challenge of the Social Charter

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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Invite applications from practising Barristers of up to 5 years call to join Chambers specialising in Revenue Law.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence and should be addressed to Michael Jump marked "Tenancy".

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Three of our most prestigious City based clients are looking for senior solicitors with a minimum of three years' banking experience to undertake high quality work. A variety in the list of categories. Preferably you will have held a post within a major banking law firm. All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL

A superb opportunity for newly - 1 year qualified solicitors to join a medium sized practice in W1. Their company commercial department has three openings for young professionals with general commercial experience. For one of these positions taxation knowledge would be beneficial. All applicants must have a 21 Hons degree to qualify.

CONTACT JOSEPHINE LYON
THE COMPLETE LEGAL RECRUITMENT SERVICE
Suite House, 1-3 St. John Square, London EC1
Tel: 071-250 3633, Fax: 071-499 1316
or after 7pm on 081-593 6278

PROPERTY tax lawyer, Min 2 yrs. exp. excellent headmaster. 20 yrs. exp. excellent headmaster. 20 yrs. exp. excellent headmaster.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

TAX
LAWYERS

Clifford Chance is the UK's largest legal practice with a presence in 13 countries worldwide. Our expanding Tax Department is involved in advising on complex corporate, financial and property transactions, many of them with an international element. The work done in the Department is stimulating and demanding, involving creative solutions to complex problems.

We seek to recruit an additional tax lawyer to join the Department. Two years post-qualification experience would be preferred (although not essential). Benefits and prospects are excellent.

Please write with c.v. to, or telephone:

Douglas French
Clifford Chance
Royex House
Aldermanbury Square
London EC2V 7LD.
Tel: 071 600 0808

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IT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS
PARTNER

Our Client, a highly regarded medium-sized London firm, has developed an enviable reputation as a market leader in the fields of information technology and telecommunications law.

Providing specialist legal services of the highest calibre to a clientele that boasts international public and private telecommunications and computer companies (many of whom are household names), the firm advises on a variety of complex issues at the forefront of these industries including major joint ventures, regulation, protection and exploitation, competition and a range of associated matters.

Due to the ever increasing demand for the firm's expertise, it now seeks to appoint a further commercial partner with good corporate/commercial skills and experience in these fields. The ideal candidate will be a senior assistant, or partner, with relevant experience gained in another major firm.

The total partnership package will, by any standards, be highly attractive and the position offers the opportunity to develop the firm's profile and client base in this specialist field.

For further information, please contact **Adrian Fox** on 071-405 6062 (071-625 9417 evenings/weekends) or write to him at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

Dumford Ford

Dumford Ford, one of the largest providers of legal services in the South East, requires a number of skilled advocates to play a vital role in the development of its Head Office Advocacy and Research Faculty.

Advocates

Advocates must be Solicitors whose main experience is, or who would want to specialise in, advocacy. The appointees who may be recently qualified solicitors, will report to the Head of Faculty.

Although appearances are mainly in the Magistrates and County Courts, practising in other Courts, as permitted, is encouraged.

Appointees will also be required to research and advise on cases generally and in respect of presentation and preparation.



If you would like to consider joining us, please write enclosing C.V. to Mrs. Mary Stacey, Personnel Department, Dumford Ford Solicitors, Administration Centre, 51 Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1BE. Telephone: (0424) 442442.

Legal Information

Major international company commercial law firm seeks a qualified librarian with several years' experience. Computer literacy, management and budgeting experience and good inter-personal skills highly desirable. Ref 3570

CITY £22-26K

Law firm with international practice especially in financial, commercial and industrial sectors has vacancies for qualified librarians. Good candidates will have law library and supervisory experience and be computer literate. Ref 3544

CITY C. £14-19K

Solicitors with media/entertainment bias seek experienced librarian to develop information services for rapidly growing partnership. Information qualification and law background ideal. Ref 3505

CENTRAL LONDON £18-20K

West country solicitors seek dynamic qualified librarian to help develop library services. European languages useful. Ref 3558

BRISTOL £8-10K

Major law firm wants legal information assistant. Law degree plus library qualification ideal. Ref 3510

CITY £12K



TFPL specialises in library and information professionals. Temporary and Permanent. Please call or write for further details or to register. TFPL Recruitment, 22 Peter's Lane, London EC1M 6DS. Tel: (071) 251 5522 Fax: (071) 251 8318. Employment Agencies Licence No. SE10131

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APPOINTMENTS FOR
SOLICITORS

County Treasury

Head of
Information Technology

£40,494 - £44,538 p.a. (Pay award pending)

Nottinghamshire County Council is preparing to invest £20m in order to embark upon an ambitious implementation of network workstations throughout the County, based on a central IBM 3090. The network will enable a considerable change improvement programme to be put into effect throughout the organisation and you will have a key role to play in the planning and change management of this programme. The Council requires a significant return on such an investment and the Head of Information Technology will be required to actively identify opportunities and assist departments to achieve the benefits.

In this key appointment, you will report directly to the County Treasurer and act as the principal adviser to the Council, Chief Executive and Chief Officers in relation to:-

- the development and implementation of a corporate Information Technology Strategy in all areas of the Council's activities;
- the effective and efficient use of Information Technology;
- authorising Information Technology applications within the Authority;
- providing services and support for corporate and departmental systems.

In addition you will be responsible for the Computer Services Division comprising of 133 staff. The Division provides a wide range of services based on an IBM 3090/200s, A5400's for departmental systems and a large base of personal computers. Whenever possible, package solutions are sought. However, extensive use of external resources is made for implementation. Additionally, a successful management information service based on DB2 is provided, and if necessary, an in-house development is based on NATURAL and ADABAS.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Naturally

- In order to succeed, you will:-
- have substantial experience of leading an Information Technology Department;
- highly developed oral and written communication skills;
- the ability to lead and persuade management and staff to adopt and adhere to a coherent approach to Information Technology;
- the ability to influence and improve the Council's processes surrounding Information Technology;
- extensive project management experience;
- be suitably qualified.

In return, we offer a range of attractive benefits, which include car lease or car loan scheme, and a generous relocation package to this attractive part of the Midlands.

If you are confident that you can manage and improve our Information Technology function, then we would like to hear from you. We positively encourage applications from women, black and other ethnic minorities and people with disabilities, as they are under-represented at this level.

Mr. G. Luff, the County Treasurer will be pleased to discuss the appointment with interested candidates. He can be contacted on Notm (0602) 823823 ext 3404.

For further details and an application form, please contact, the Employment and Equal Opportunities Section, County Personnel Division at County Hall, tel Notm (0602) 823320. Closing date 8 August. Please quote ref: 111.

The County Council welcomes applications from all, irrespective of gender, marital status, disability, race, age or sexual orientation.



Nottinghamshire
County Council
County Hall, West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 7QP

TRANSPORTATION AND ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

SECTION LEADERS
(ROAD SAFETY/ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION)

POST NO X0280X

(AIDS TO MOVEMENT)

POST NO X0282X

Up to £21,042 p.a.

(pay award pending)

PLUS

- Generous relocation package
- Subsidised Lease Car/Car Loan
- Flexible Working Hours
- Free Car Parking

These five tier posts are responsible to the Principal Engineer, Traffic Management and Safety for the management and direction of Teams to discharge their section's responsibilities.

The Section Leader (Road Safety/Accident Investigation) should be a Chartered Engineer with extensive experience in Road Safety and Accident Investigation.

The Section Leader (Aids to Movement) should be a Chartered Engineer with considerable appropriate experience in Traffic Control applications and Traffic Management measures.

Both sections form part of the Traffic Management and Safety Section which maintains and analyses accident records and statistics for the County, investigates related matters and formulates remedial measures and policies. The Section Leaders are required to co-ordinate the day to day activities of their sections and to support the County Surveyor as necessary at Committee meetings and meetings with other authorities and organisations.

The Department has recently introduced a system of Performance Management for all staff together with a statement of values which sets out what members of staff believe are important.

Closing date: 27th July 1990.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE FROM DEREK HANSFORD, TRANSPORTATION AND ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, COUNTY HALL, DORCHESTER, DT1 1XJ, TEL (0305) 204211. PLEASE QUOTE APPROPRIATE POST.



FINANCE MANAGERS

Up to £19,000 per annum
plus Performance Related Pay

Acute Hospital services in Southend are at the forefront of developments in the provision of high quality and efficient health care services. To respond to the challenges and opportunities we are restructuring our financial management section to ensure that we provide the sharp, high quality financial information and advice required by managers operating in a contractual environment.

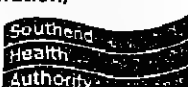
We have created a number of new posts, each leading a team of staff and responsible for providing information and financial expertise to a group of managers. A key role for each individual will be to work closely with managers to ensure that the service we provide is responsive to changing needs.

Ideally you should be qualified as an Accountant or well on the way to completing your studies. More important is the ability to think ahead, work flexibly in a dynamic environment and above all communicate effectively with managers at all levels in the organisation.

As well as the competitive salary we offer, you'll enjoy the opportunity to develop both yourself and your career potential.

To discuss these posts please contact Carol Winsor on (0702) 546354 ext 313. Application forms and information packs are available from Recruitment, District Office, Union Lane, Rochford, Essex SS4 1RB or telephone (0702) 542486 (24 hour answering machine in operation)

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Commerce
LEGAL ADVISOR

NO-2 years' PQE c.£35K

This leading, international Group specialising in state-of-the-art telecommunications systems, seeks a solicitor to join its legal team at its flagship site, in landscaped parkland, 15 minutes north of the City of London. With up to 2 years' PQE in Company Law, from Practice or Commerce you will negotiate and draft contracts on legal matters of the highest quality (eg. M and A, I.P., joint ventures etc), and you will advise the main board. Opportunities to travel abroad arise frequently.

The remuneration package reflects the importance attached to this position (car, BUPA, PPP) and promotion prospects are excellent.

For further information, please contact Simon Janion or Simon Egan on 071-242 6321, or write to us at 75 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8US. Alternatively fax your CV to us on 071-831 7121.

PERSONNEL • RESOURCES
LEGAL DIVISION

Private Practice

BANKING

City Firm to £48K

Following recent expansion in this key, specialist department, this highly regarded and international firm is set to become a major force in Banking Law during the 1990's.

The firm now seeks 2 solicitors to join its dynamic and invigorating department. The positions will suit candidates with 1-3 or 5-7 years' PQE, whose flair, imagination and ambition is restricted by their present position, and which is matched by experience in real estate projects, MBO/LBO's, take-overs, working capital facilities, cross border transactions.

Career prospects are outstanding and include rapid promotion to partnership.

How to gain that edge in the market

High starting salaries make management consultancy one of the most competitive careers for graduates, Beryl Dixon writes

Management consultancy is one of the more difficult careers for graduates to enter. Many firms recruit only those with previous business experience, and the high starting salaries have made it increasingly popular. As a result, employers can be very selective. Students most likely to be accepted are those who begin their job hunt early. Second-year students take note: recruitment targets are always met by January.

Tips from one interviewer include: "Find out what consultancy is first. It sounds obvious, but many students have false impressions. And know your consultants — they are very different." You must also know yourself. Do you enjoy lateral thinking and problem-solving? Good, but can you also meet tight deadlines, work in a team and demonstrate some interest in business? Many of the consultancies that do recruit graduates are not asking for particular degree disciplines, but are looking for indications that applicants possess such skills.

A good definition of management consultancy is elusive. Practitioners are weary of the joke that a consultant is someone who borrows your watch to tell you the time and then charges a fee. Simon Rickman, of Andersen Consulting, defines it as "an advisory service contracted for and provided to organisations by specially trained and qualified people, who assist in an objective and independent manner, identifying management problems, analysing them, recommending solutions and helping, when required, to implement the solutions".

Mr Rickman says: "That last phrase is important. A good consultant does not run away, but stays to get his hands dirty." Although 14 of the top-earning consultancy firms are attached to accountancy practices, others have developed along different lines. There is no such thing as a typical consultancy practice. The scope of work undertaken and the degree of specialisation vary from firm to firm. So does the initial training given, and students must



DENZIL MCNEILLANCE

CHARMIAN CAINES has completed almost two years as an associate with the Boston Consulting Group (BCG). "I chose them because I wanted a short induction period that would rapidly lead to involvement in real work," she says. BCG chose her because of her track record. In her first year reading French and history at Oxford she joined a student business society and became joint organiser of a week-long conference on Japan's economic miracle, attended by 120 students from Europe and Japan. "It took a year to organise and to raise £40,000 in sponsorship," she says. In her third year, instead of taking a teaching post in France, Ms Caines used her business contacts to find employment, first with a Japanese bank in Geneva, then with a UK bank in France. Training at BCG lasted two weeks and covered accounting and financial analysis at the London Business School. In-house training included market analysis and interview and presentation techniques. Ms Caines was assigned to a case team of four and within two days was in Paris. "The project was for a transport company deciding whether to move into the French market. Within days I was interviewing French distribution managers," she says. Her next step will be to take an MBA at Harvard or Insead in Paris, one of Europe's leading business schools. "It is the firm's policy to send associates after two years if we wish to go and gain a place," she says.

research this thoroughly. It can be as little as two weeks. Some people would be unhappy with this. For others it is ideal.

The main division is between the pure strategy advisers and the information technology (IT) consultants. A third group specialises in human resources, and there are a number of smaller specialists. Some consultancies are so large that they undertake the whole range. The IT and strategy

consultancies are the most prepared to take and train graduates. David Rhodes, of the Boston Consulting Group, defines strategy consulting this way: "Helping clients to develop and implement strategy. They want to achieve a sustained edge over competitors in the field. We are looking to make a lasting change within their organisation — not just the flavour of today."

Clients may typically ask

whether 1992 will bring an opportunity or a threat, whether they should expand or take over another company, and whether they should launch a new product or move into a new market. Consultants work with senior managers whose decisions will inevitably be far-reaching. Why then do some firms take raw graduates, while others employ only those with business experience, and often holders of Master

of Business Administration degrees? It is because some firms believe in training consultants in their own methods and see graduates as possessing the necessary transferable skills. Others want only the high-flyers, who have not only managed to get good degrees, but also found time to achieve results in a non-academic area. Trainees are, naturally enough, not let loose on top-level clients straight away. They begin as

associates, working in a team with more experienced staff, usually under a partner's direction, but even so, can expect some client contact almost immediately. As consultancy work is team-based, communication skills and evidence of ability to work with others are of paramount interest to employers. Application forms not showing evidence of group or team activities will not survive the initial sift.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

(Continued from Previous Page)

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND PROCUREMENT

SALARY: c.£34,000pa (+ leased car + PRP)

Are you up to the challenge of 'Working for Patients' at Authority level?

Are you excited by the prospect of working as an executive member of a Health Authority planning the future health care services for the people of Gwent?

Are you able to lead in the process of contract management?

If so, ring or write to: Jeremy Hallett, District General Manager, Gwent Health Authority, Mamhilad, Pontypool, Gwent NP4 0YP. Tel: (0495) 762401.

Closing date for CVs: Friday, August 3, 1990.

Gwent Health Authority
Working towards equal opportunities

DETAILS BY PHONE

We'll show you how to earn big money helping businesses keep in touch.

- * International Company
- * Complete Training
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- * Management Opportunities

It's your future - call

Pat Foster
071 973 1735

MILLICOM INFORMATION SERVICES

Royal National Institute for the Blind INFORMATION ASSISTANT

Salary: £10,689 — £11,745

RNIB's Education and Leisure Division are looking for an INFORMATION ASSISTANT to assist the Information Team by providing help with enquiries from parents, teachers, local authorities and others about educational opportunities for visually impaired children.

You will have accurate typing plus WP experience; the ability to work on your own initiative and to deal with people sensitively. A general understanding of the UK education system would be helpful.

For a job description and application form please contact RNIB, Personnel Department, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. Telephone (071) 388 1266, Ext. 2460 (Answerphone 8am - 5pm).

Applications, complete with covering letter to reach us by 24th July, 1990. Interviews to be held on Friday, 27th July.

The RNIB is working towards becoming an Equal Opportunities Organisation.

Take a Positive Step!

Wandsworth Health Authority is the largest Teaching District within the South West Thames Regional Health Authority, with individual Unit Revenue Budgets larger than those of many District Health Authorities. The developments occurring within the Wandsworth finance function as a result of the Government's NHS legislation has created an unprecedented demand for individuals who possess imaginative financial management and accounting skills.

The Authority is therefore looking to strengthen its financial service by recruiting up to a dozen new full-time or part-time staff who possess these skills and values.

The posts on offer are spread across all our Service Units and cover salaries from £12,000 to £30,000, so that whatever your current background, experience and skill level it is likely that we can offer you a post to suit your career needs.

As the largest Authority within the Region, Wandsworth can offer you excellent opportunities for both career and professional development with the added bonus of on-site social, catering and sports facilities. Our links with a local Housing Association also mean that we can offer assistance in finding suitable accommodation where required and we can also provide crèche facilities and holiday pay schemes where appropriate.

If you are a part qualified Accountant, Accountant Technician or have the necessary qualifications to register as a student with one of the recognised accounting bodies and feel that you have the energy, commitment and creative flair required to make a real impact in a progressive organisation, then we would like to meet you. Our senior finance staff will be holding an open evening so that we can informally discuss with you the financial opportunities that Wandsworth Health Authority has to offer.

If you would like to book a place on our

OPEN EVENING

which will be held

on Tuesday 31st July (5.00 - 8.00) please ring Christine Saunders the Director of Finance's Secretary on 081-627 1255 extension 52455.

Wandsworth Health Authority

Unit Chief Executive

Applications are invited from individuals with top flight leadership and management skills to be responsible for our West Unit, covering Crawley and Horsham.

The Unit provides a comprehensive range of general hospital and community services to a population of 150,000. The budget is presently c.£25 million and the Unit employs almost 1,500 staff. The Unit is presently pursuing Trust status from April 1991.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a track record in the management of change in a large, complex organisation. Such experience need not be exclusive to the NHS.

Job description and information pack can be obtained by telephoning the District Personnel Department on (0444) 441666 ext. 2133. Informal enquiries will be welcomed, please contact: Steve Phoenix, Director of Corporate Development, on (0444) 441666 ext. 2114.

Closing date for returned applications: 9th August 1990.



PUBLIC & HEALTH CARE



Meet our recruiters for local interviews July 20th & 21st.

Located in the heart of the Palm Beaches on Florida's Gold Coast, JFK Medical Center is a 369 bed, acute care, not-for-profit community hospital providing the finest in care, equipment, and technology.

We will be conducting local interviews in the London area, July 20th & 21st, 1990. Call now to reserve an appointment with Ann Marie Murphy at 071 837 9211. If you are unable to see us at this time please send your resume or contact:

Patti Parks, Nurse Recruiter
P.O. Box 1489 Lake Worth, Florida U.S.A. 33460-1489
(407) 642-3561 or (800) JFK-8859 ext 3561

E.O.E.



WEST AFRICA RICE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (WARDA) VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The West Africa Rice Development Association — WARDA/ADRAO — an International Agricultural Research Centre under the CGIAR System, seeks for the following international positions.

1. PUBLICATIONS SPECIALIST

Duties: Will serve as the Chief Science Writer and Editor for all WARDA publications; assist in developing publication policies, plans, schedules and procedures for WARDA's publications.

Qualifications: A higher degree in Agriculture, Biological Sciences or related disciplines with professional training and experience in scientific writing/editing in English or relevant training and proven working experience of at least eight years in writing/editing technical publications in English. Ability to use desk-top publishing and other modern publishing technology is essential; sound knowledge of printing and publishing procedures and experience in the production of scientific publications are essential. Working experience in tropical developing countries preferably in Africa would be an advantage and bilingual capacity in English and French will be preferred.

2. DOCUMENTALIST

Duties: To be fully responsible for the WARDA Library and for formulation of policies, plans and procedures; managing the resources of the WARDA Library; identifying user populations, needs and methods of service and managing databases; acquisition of library materials.

Qualifications: Higher degree with training and experience in library/information sciences; experience on computerisation of library services; familiarity with CGIAR and international agricultural library databases and systems, and with agriculture. Should be fluent in English and French.

3. TRAINING SPECIALIST

Duties: Overall organisation and supervision of all the training programs of WARDA; coordinate all WARDA/NARS collaborative training programs; identification of the training needs of NARS for rice research and development in WARDA's member States, the design and implementation of training programmes to satisfy these needs.

Qualifications: A PhD degree or equivalent in Agriculture, Biological Sciences or related fields, with relevant training and substantial experience in human resources development and management. Experience in working in Africa or in tropical developing countries will be preferred; thorough knowledge of English and French would be an advantage.

4. TRANSLATOR (English to French)

Duties: English to French translation and editing of all translating WARDA documents; coordinate all WARDA translation/interpretation requirements; translation/secretariat support for all WARDA official meetings.

Qualifications: Higher degree in Agriculture, other applied sciences or related subjects with professional training and qualifications in Translation; at least eight years experience as English to French translator; familiarity with agriculture, and preferably rice terminology.

Salaries and benefits are competitive with other CGIAR centres. Applications for these positions will be accepted until 31 August 1990. Please submit your application, including an updated curriculum vitae, names of three referees and date of availability to:

Dr E. R. Terry
Director General
WARDA/ADRAO

01 BP 2551, Bouake Cote d'Ivoire

Telephone: 63 32 42 or 63 23 96

Telex: 69138 ADRAO CI. Fax: (225) 63 47 14

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

GWENT HEALTH AUTHORITY ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISER

(CHANGE MANAGEMENT)

SALARY: c.£30,000pa. (+ leased car + P.R.P.)

Can you help the District General Manager and Health Authority work through new organisational arrangements to ensure that the organisational style and culture are consistent with the service and health care objectives?

Can you motivate and inspire people to give their hearts and minds?

Can you contribute to the development of a change management strategy that helps a large Authority maintain a corporate approach to the provision of health care within the framework of 'Working for Patients'?

If so, ring or write to: Jeremy Hallett, District General Manager, Gwent Health Authority, Mamhilad, Pontypool, Gwent NP4 0YP. Tel No. (0495) 762401.

Closing date for CVs: Friday, 27th July, 1990.

Gwent Health Authority
Working towards equal opportunities

LEGAL

SECRETARY & SOLICITOR

£30,324 - £33,597 per annum (July 1990 Pay Award Pending)

With local Government continuing to move through a period of rapid change, the role of Chief Officers in Warwick District Council has rarely been more demanding or more satisfying. In order to maintain and improve high standards of services provided to the community we are looking for an individual, not only with the ability to lead the legal and administrative functions efficiently and effectively, but also with flair, energy and innovation to make a positive contribution to the formulation of corporate policy over the wide range of issues facing a progressive Local Authority.

As the Council's Chief Legal Adviser, the Solicitor appointed will not only be required to maintain the high level of professional advice which the Council currently enjoys, but also to demonstrate an outstanding record of management achievement probably as Deputy Chief Officer level.

The position carries a lump sum car allowance and, where appropriate, a comprehensive relocation package is available together with housing accommodation and a Building Society referral scheme.

Full details of the post are available from The Personnel Section, Town Hall, The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 7 or by telephoning (0923) 439000 extension 2007.

Applications should be in the applicant's own style including full curriculum vitae and should arrive no later than 30th July, 1990. SSC An Equal Opportunities Employer.



Pick your theme for a day out

Down they go: 20th-century fun at the Camelot Theme Park

ver's Kingdom in Derbyshire but, with about 50 rides, less to do than at other theme parks. This, of course, may suit many visitors. The Wild West provides a lively subject for the American Adventure theme Park, also, in Derbyshire.

There is a somewhat looser American theme at the compact Pleasurewood Hills in Suffolk. Finally, there are a few tips.

Theme park veterans urge visitors to take a cautious approach to eating — young roller coaster riders and their most recent snacks can all too soon be parted. Watch the weather too. Theme parks are not much fun in the rain.

Be warned too that some parks are expensive. A family of four will not get much change from £60 for a day out at one of the more popular venues.

- RACING 37
- CRICKET 38
- GOLF 39

SPORT

Taylor as much on trial as his team

GRAHAM Taylor steps into the best and the worst of situations as national team manager. There is euphoria across the land because England reached the World Cup semi-final. To believe, however, that one drawn match with West Germany, lost on penalties, after random disorganisation against Belgium and Cameroon, has re-established England as an international power, would be a grave delusion and a handicap to the job in hand.

Fortunately, Taylor is sufficiently his own man to recognise this. In most respects he should start from scratch. Within the two-year period of attempting to qualify, against the Republic of Ireland, Poland and Turkey, for the European championship in Sweden, he will involuntarily have to replace half the team. The other five or six players, promising in Italy, may or may not live up to their, or his, expectations.

The first principle to remember is, as Sir Alf Ramsey inarticulately expressed it to his own detriment, we have



David Miller

nothing to learn from Brazil: in other words, English players do not have Brazilian flair for the first-time pass or Brazilian imagination, and therefore can only lose rather than gain by attempting to play similarly. But Taylor will know this; he is not immune as a coach to the merits of the long ball.

He is at some disadvantage, none the less, on several counts. Foreign football coaches and commentators, on learning of his appointment, tended to say not unfairly during the past month: "Graham, who?"

When Taylor is confronted by the better players from top Football League clubs earning twice as much as he is, it will be difficult at first for him to respond to the unspoken challenge of: "Show us your medals."

He was not an exceptional player, and though dozens of

people in English football know him to be an excellent coach, he has no prizes to which he can point in the same way as could Ramsey, Revie, Greenwood and Robson. Taylor is, therefore, as much on trial as the players on whom his reputation will depend.

Nor will he have the advantages he has enjoyed at Chester, Watford and Aston Villa, in the club environment, of being able to exercise a daily discipline and the not inconsiderable force of his own personality. Revie and Robson discovered this to their initial dismay. Yet that should not undermine Taylor if he recognises the essential difference that exists between handling a club and a national team.

Jack Charlton led the Irish, not without skill — theirs and his — to the quarter-final, where they stretched Italy and lost by the only goal. Beforehand, Charlton said: "There's no point in my looking at Italy to see how they play. All that matters is the way we play." There is a strong link in

pragmatism between Ramsey and Charlton, and it is on this, I believe, that Taylor should concentrate.

While I accept that Ireland's strength in the World Cup, suffocating the opposition's midfield play at source, is not always attractive, their encounters with Romania and Italy were tactically fascinating; as opposed to most of England's matches, which were tactically puzzling if not incomprehensible.

The difference was that, on the one hand, Charlton picked teams knowing exactly what his players would do; and if they did not, would not or could not, like Brady, they were omitted. On the other hand, Robson for eight years selected teams on an expectation of what they might do and was regularly disappointed or let down by several players.

Taylor, therefore, has to decide early on what is the most practical, tactical formation for English players, meeting once every six weeks, to approach international foot-

ball; and then stay with it. As I tried often to say regarding Robson's teams, continuity of formation is the one consistent facet available to international players with no time to train together.

Having decided on the system, Taylor has to find the players who will fit it; and that may well mean leaving out, against the advice, criticism and even fury of the public, press and television, certain players who are thought to be irreplaceable. Taylor has the willpower to do this.

There have been some readers who thought my comments on Robson's selections were unfair; and besides, did not the team do well in the end, and was it not a nice way to finish for a decent man? Yes, and yes.

I had maintained, before the tournament began, that an England team having several useful players could, with better tactical organisation, reach the semi-final. During the course of six matches, inadvertently aided by injury as in 1986, Robson's team fell into shape, players gained

confidence and suddenly the side was again looking creditable.

However, there were at least three World Cup managers who could have been only too pleased to play against an England midfield of Barnes, Platt, Gascoigne and Waddle devoid of defensive resistance.

If Taylor will keep things simple, play upon English strengths, get young players into the team during the European qualifying tournament rather than wait for the World Cup, qualifying matches, then England can carry on where Robson's fluctuating and ultimately popular team left off.

Taylor is a tougher man, inwardly and outwardly, and should survive. He will not tolerate some of the stupidity in damaging public relations that marred England's squad in Italy; and, son of a journalist, he will give the tatty tabloids short shrift. If he contains his ambitions within the parameters of the material available, his management should prove to be an interesting period.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

My decision is final, home life comes first now

I AM getting my first taste of what retirement will be like and I am enjoying it. I must also say that I will not change my mind about my future.

There have been suggestions already that I will be tempted back into Formula One. A lot of people have been saying a lot of nice things and I am very flattered. I have had messages from all sorts of people in the sport and again that is greatly appreciated. Motor racing has been my life and you do not make a decision like this lightly.

But I do feel I should emphasise that I am standing by the announcement I made at Silverstone on Sunday, that I am retiring at the end of the season. My decision is definite. I just would not put my family through all that again.

My wife, Rosanne, and I have made all the decisions in my career together and this was no exception. I have never had any pressure from her in the 20 years we have been together, but this season has been different. We started talking about this possibility months ago and I know now that it is what she wants. It is what we both want.

The decision was obviously a very hard one after so many years in the sport, ten of them in Formula One. We have put a lot of time, effort and dedication into it and I know I have been driving as well as ever. I know also that I could go on for a good few more years yet.

But now I have made that decision and made it public. It is really not so difficult after all.

I certainly wanted to win the world championship and a couple of times I have come very close. When I had it taken away from me by that tyre blow-out in Adelaide in 1986, I was devastated. We had worked so hard for that and it seemed so cruel, so unfair. But I certainly do not feel I have anything to prove.

I cannot win the championship this season with Ferrari and, as I have said, I will do what I can to help my team-mate, Alain Prost. I have never regretted my decision to join Ferrari, but there have been, shall we say, frustrations.

I am still never happier than I am in a car. There I am in my own little world, doing what I enjoy doing. I have always been a racer, always tried to entertain and give the supporters what they want. It is second nature to me.

I had hoped to go out with a win at the British grand prix, but it is still nice to know the track record will always be mine. The bulldozers move in soon to rip up the existing circuit and next year there will be a new one, which will be considerably slower.

Britain and Silverstone.

NIGEL MANSELL, Britain's leading Formula One driver, explains his reasons for retiring at the end of the season. A member of the Marlboro drivers' team, Mansell is contributing regularly to The Times

have been good to me and I will treasure that record. I will also treasure a lot of great moments in my career, and a lot of good friendships. The highlights have to include my wins on English soil, of course. My first win was the 1985 grand prix of Europe at Brands Hatch and the following summer I had my first British grand prix win, again at Brands. In 1987 I won at Silverstone, and that probably stands out as the most emotional day of all.

Even at Ferrari there have been some marvellous moments. I won my first race for them, in Brazil last year, which was unbelievable. I had possibly my most satisfying win when I came from twelfth on the grid in Budapest later that season.

I had the privilege of working with Colin Chapman, the man who made Lotus such a great team. He brought me into Formula One and inspired me. I also had a brilliant time with Keke Rosberg, who was my team-mate at Williams in 1985. He will be the first to tell you he had to change his opinion of me because of what he had heard from others. Within a couple of months together we were great pals; Keke too, was a racer and we understood each other. You know where you stood with him, and I liked that.

I have also, of course, had a great relationship with the British supporters. I make no secret of the fact that there have been times when they have lifted me and helped me achieve victories. It happened at Brands, it happened at Silverstone. I am desperately disappointed I did not give them a win in my last British grand prix, but I am sure they understand the circumstances. When you have no gears you really do not have much of a hope. But I got my first pole position in Britain and I led for much of the race.

I still have some racing to do, however, before I retire. There are eight grands prix remaining and it would be nice to win at least one of them to equal Stirling Moss's record of 16 career wins. Perhaps I could even beat it and have the highest total by any Englishman in Formula One.

The main thing is that I want to enjoy my last half season in the sport and you can be sure I will put everything into it.

John Blunsden, page 36

A tracksuit job is tailor-made for England manager

By DENNIS SIGNY

GRAHAM Taylor was installed as manager of England's football team yesterday and promptly announced his first aim. "I'd like to be the most tracksuited manager England has ever had," the former Aston Villa, Watford and Lincoln City manager told a press conference at Lancaster Gate.

It had been said, Taylor declared, that a big problem for his predecessors had been that they were only able to get players together briefly before international games at something like three-monthly intervals. "The biggest problem," he said, "is that we are so club-orientated in England and not international-orientated. If the players can't come to you between internationals, you have to go to them."

Taylor's innovative plan is to stay based at his home in the Midlands and visit clubs on a regular basis to meet players and, if their managers are agreeable, to take training or coaching sessions. When he was at Watford, he said, he invited Danny Blanchflower, the former Northern Ireland international captain, to the club to talk about Tottenham Hotspur's playing style in his days and Billy Wright, the former England captain, to talk about the Wolverhampton Wanderers of the 1950s.

Taylor, who has agreed a four-year contract with the Football Association, said that going to watch players on a Saturday afternoon, and to try to see fellow managers when they were at their busiest on match days, was not the correct way. "I'd like to go training with them. I'd like to do a session if they want." He added that he would then be in the players' environment and would be able to "talk football talk" to them in the changing room or the treatment room.

Taylor said he did not expect every manager to release every player he wanted for international duty. When asked if he expected, say, Kenny Dalglish or Brian Clough to let him in, he replied: "I can only ask. If people say 'no way I want the England manager' I have got to respect that. But we are footballing people. This job isolates you. There is no doubt about that. I cannot afford to be isolated from my colleagues, the Football League club managers."

Bobby Campbell, the Chelsea manager, said: "Of course, he would be welcome, he is the England manager. If he wants to do a session at Chelsea, he can. If he wants to get closer to the players, it's only fair he comes down to see the internationals and the potential internationals."

In a skilfully conducted half-hour conference, followed by more than an hour of personal television and radio interviews, Taylor set another target: England to match the West Germans in the World Cup and European championship and said: "We ought to be able to put ourselves on a par with them. Are they that much better?"

The manager said he would be announcing decisions on his coaching back-up staff "as soon as possible" when he had spoken to people; he parried questions about the futures of Bryan Robson, Bobby Robson's captain, Terry Butcher and John Barnes, and also about his salary.

He said the World Cup, with England reaching the semi-finals, had given the game a great upsurge that had to be good for everyone. "My worst fear is that we might get back into a situation where football is nobody's friend," he said. "The game does not deserve the hammering it has had, English clubs out of Europe and the game bashed politically. I am ready for a change in my career."

Taylor welcomed the return of English clubs to Europe and said there was pressure on the supporters of Manchester United and Aston Villa. Football had a history of aggression on and off the field and this was not a new phenomenon; he was in the stands at Budapest in the 1980s when England beat Hungary and bottles were thrown at English supporters.

The son of a football writer, Taylor said he understood people in the public eye had to forgo part of their private life; he had welcomed going "behind the scenes" at the recent World Cup finals, writing for *The Times*, and commenting on ITV, as it had given him an insight into press and television requirements.

England are arranging games against Cameroon at Wembley on February 6, Argentina and the Soviet Union next May and West Germany on September 11. Graham Taylor is believed to have been offered £1 million — £250,000 a year for four years — by Aston Villa in an attempt to retain him.



Hands-on managers: Taylor discussing the cut and style of his national post

Sexton quits England scene

AFTER a decade on the England international scene, Dave Sexton, who was the assistant national director of coaching at the FA, has resigned. He is expected to take up a position in Saudi Arabia (Dennis Signy writes).

Sexton, aged 60, the former Leyton Orient, Chelsea, Queen's Park Rangers, Manchester United and Coventry City manager, tendered his resignation by letter last week, but the news was not revealed until yesterday, when

Graham Taylor succeeded Bobby Robson.

Sexton, who led Chelsea to both FA Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup success in the 1970s and Rangers into second place, behind Liverpool, in the first division, has been acknowledged as one of the foremost coaches in England for more than 25 years.

He was a club manager when he first took charge of the England under-21 side in 1980, and has twice led that

team to European championship success, in 1982 and 1984.

He signed off by managing the under-21 side to victory in an eight-country tournament in Toulon, France, this summer and he was one of Robson's back-up team in Italy for the World Cup finals.

Taylor, who was unaware of Sexton's decision to resign when he took over, described him as "a first class man" and said he planned talks with him.

Future of Nemeth in jeopardy

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Nemeth javelin, the brand with which Jan Zeleny relieved Steve Backley of his world record in Oslo on Saturday, will not be permitted in this summer's European championships in Split. Furthermore, the International Amateur Athletic Federation will discuss, at a meeting three days before the championships begin on August 27, whether the Nemeth should be disqualified from future competition.

It would not concern Backley if, by the end of the season, Zeleny had the world record, provided he was in possession of the European gold medal. Championships take precedence, Backley has always maintained.

Using a testing gun in Budapest last year, the

Nemeth was shown to travel up to 10 per cent farther than other javelins and Gavin Lovegrove, the New Zealand javelin who was third behind Zeleny, of Czechoslovakia, and Backley in Oslo, said that the Briton would have been over 90 metres before last weekend, had he used the Nemeth.

Backley, however, is sticking to his Sanvik. As Lovegrove said: "I would hate to get used to it, get my top throws with it and then have to come back down." Athletes are allowed to use their own implements in grand prix competition, such as Oslo, but at championships only those provided by the organising committee may be used.

"For all major championships the list of implements is approved eighteen months to

two years before the championships," a spokesman for the IAAF technical office said yesterday. "The European Athletic Association informs us that the Nemeth was not included on the list for Split. It will not therefore be used."

There is no question, as has been reported in some quarters, of Zeleny's world record not being ratified because his 89.66 metres — 8cm beyond Backley's world record set 12 days earlier in Stockholm — was achieved with a Nemeth.

"The prototype was approved by the IAAF technical committee in September last year and the IAAF technical representative in Oslo, Professor August Kirsch confirmed that the javelin used by Zeleny was similar to the prototype approved," the

IAAF spokesman said. "On the basis of this information, and assuming all the other conditions were met, there is no reason to believe that the performance will not be approved as a world record."

Mike Gee, the IAAF technical officer, said that "obviously it would be discussed along with other matters like throwing into bulls-eyes," when the governing body's council meets on August 24.

The Nemeth javelin has a sandless-type surface for some 18 inches behind the grip, to change its aerodynamic characteristics and make it float. The reference to bulls-eyes goes back 11 days to the Edinburgh grand prix where David Bedford, the meeting director, offered bonus money to Backley to land a javelin in one of three coloured circles.

Jacklin 'certain' Faldo will win

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TONY Jacklin believes that Nick Faldo will win his fourth major championship by claiming the 119th Open which starts at St Andrews on Thursday.

Jacklin, who won the Open in 1969 and made a splendid start to his defence 12 months later when he played the outward half at St Andrews in 29, is convinced that Faldo will triumph.

"It's nice to see more Americans coming over for the Open but while many of them are very fine players I honestly believe the trophy is on the way back to Nick's home in Ascot," Jacklin said. "I've never been more certain in this most uncertain of games that Nick Faldo will win here."

Jacklin, talking at a lunch to launch a new set of "Knock shots off your Handicap" instructional tapes (Video Collection International Limited, £9.99 each volume), said:

"I'm more convinced of my prediction coming true because of what happened to Nick a few weeks ago in America. Getting so close to the United States Open may have been desperately disappointing at the time but it will only have made Nick more determined to win here."

"I've never known a more dedicated golfer in my life. It just seems to be more important to him than anything else right now. He is a phenomenon; he's moved into a different plane than the others. Nick is where Watson was once and where Nicklaus was once and that is about as high as you can go. The only

Woosnam goes to hospital

IAN Woosnam was taken to hospital after collapsing in pain during a light-hearted practice for the Open Championship at St Andrews yesterday (Mitchell Platt writes).

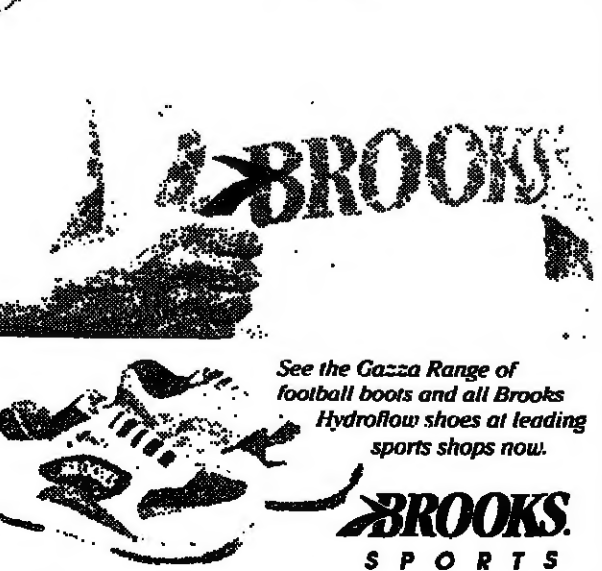
The Welshman, suffering again from a sore back, chose not to play the Old Course and went to watch his friend, David A. Russell attempt to qualify at nearby Ladybank Golf Club.

"I decided to hit a few shots on the range down there while I was waiting," Woosnam said. "But with only the second ball I felt something in my back which really hurt."

Woosnam was immediately taken to a hospital in Perth because it was thought, from the pain, that he might be suffering from a kidney infection but it was later confirmed that it was a recurrence of spodylitis.

way Nick and I come into competition nowadays is in the video market and that's a relief because I wouldn't fancy taking him on at golf right now. A few years ago, yes, but now the others can do that. "If an American was to win then I would like to see Tom Kite do it. Sentimentally, I lean towards him because he's not won a major but he has got so close so many times. In fact, he has made many good challenges for the Open. It would be lovely to see him win at the age of 40. Greg Norman, too, cannot be ruled out. He is such a fine player and he deserves more than the one Open he won in 1986."

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